

CANADIAN  
NATURAL  
RESOURCES  
LIMITED

ANNUAL REPORT 2000

BALANCE





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#### Notice of Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of shareholders will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, 2001 in the Ballroom of the Metropolitan Centre, Calgary, Alberta. All shareholders are invited to attend.

#### Company Definition

Throughout the annual report Canadian Natural Resources Limited is referred to as "Canadian Natural" or the "Company".

#### Volume Reporting

All production, sales and reserve statistics are Canadian Natural's working interest amounts before deduction of royalties, unless stated otherwise. Where volumes are reported in barrels of oil equivalent, natural gas is converted to oil at six thousand cubic feet per barrel unless otherwise noted. This conversion ratio approximates relative heating values. The ratio is being adopted by more Canadian oil and natural gas companies and investment analysts and is more common outside of Canada, particularly in the United States.

#### Forward-looking Statements

Certain information regarding the Company contained herein may constitute forward-looking statements under applicable securities laws. Such statements are subject to known or unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

**ON THE COVER:** The gyroscope featured on this year's annual report is symbolic of the constant balancing of the Company's assets. In 2000, Canadian Natural Resources Limited expanded into international areas to add additional light oil properties to its operations.

# Defined Profitable Growth

In another year of tremendous growth, Canadian Natural Resources Limited expanded its strong base of Canadian operations into the international arena with the acquisition of Ranger Oil Limited. Ranger's technical resource group, experienced in international operations, joined Canadian Natural's team to assist the Company with the newly acquired base of producing assets in the North Sea, the United States and Offshore West Africa.

Canadian Natural had already grown to be one of Canada's largest independent oil and gas producers, an achievement based on adhering to its corporate strategy of complementary acquisition, exploration and exploitation. Canadian Natural has built a strong and diversified asset base in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin with a production base balanced between natural gas, light and medium oil, conventional heavy oil and thermal heavy oil.

Canadian Natural is moving forward with tremendous growth opportunities in Canada, and a platform for growth internationally.

## HIGHLIGHTS

	2000	1999	1998
<b>FINANCIAL</b> (millions of Canadian dollars, except per share data)			
Gross revenue	\$ 3,222.5	\$ 1,286.8	\$ 877.6
Cash flow from operations attributable to common shareholders	\$ 1,883.6	\$ 723.5	\$ 444.2
Per share	\$ 16.14	\$ 6.96	\$ 4.47
Net earnings attributable to common shareholders	\$ 782.2	\$ 200.2	\$ 59.0
Per share	\$ 6.70	\$ 1.93	\$ 0.59
Net reserve replacement expenditures	\$ 2,817.4	\$ 1,904.4	\$ 581.0
Long-term debt	\$ 2,454.5	\$ 2,156.8	\$1,425.5
Shareholders' equity	\$ 3,216.9	\$ 1,892.0	\$1,277.4

## OPERATING

### Daily production

Crude oil and natural gas liquids (thousand barrels)			
North America	154.3	86.8	75.7
North Sea	17.2	—	—
Other International	2.1	—	—
	173.6	86.8	75.7

Natural gas (million cubic feet)			
North America	792.9	721.0	672.6
North Sea	1.5	—	—
	794.4	721.0	672.6

Barrels of oil equivalent (thousand barrels)	306.0	206.9	187.9
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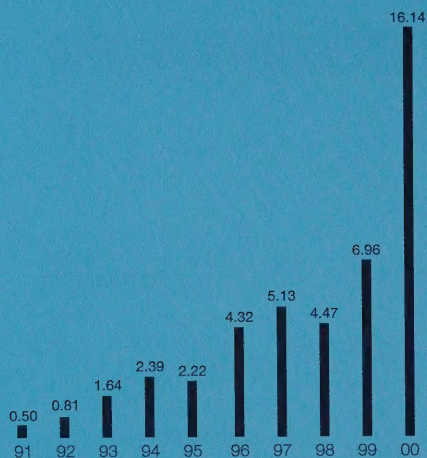
### Reserves, before royalties

Crude oil and natural gas liquids (million barrels)			
Proven			
North America	642.4	553.5	287.0
North Sea	101.9	—	—
Other International	36.7	—	—
	781.0	553.5	287.0
Probable			
North America	88.0	86.4	97.2
North Sea	32.6	—	—
Other International	9.7	—	—
	130.3	86.4	97.2

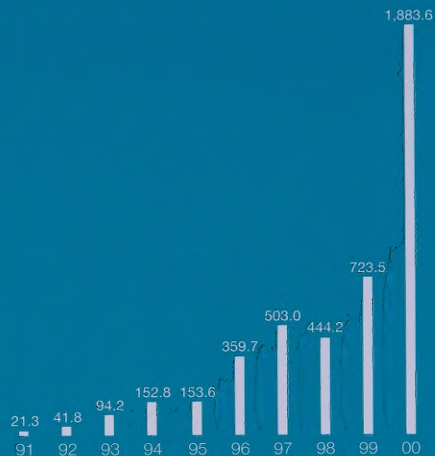


	2000	1999	1998
<b>Natural gas reserves (billion cubic feet)</b>			
Proven			
North America	2,360.1	2,183.1	1,905.2
North Sea	91.3	—	—
Other International	65.4	—	—
	2,516.8	2,183.1	1,905.2
Probable			
North America	402.1	364.2	310.5
North Sea	22.8	—	—
Other International	19.3	—	—
	444.2	364.2	310.5
<b>Barrels of oil equivalent (million barrels)</b>			
Proven	1,200.5	917.4	604.5
Probable	204.3	147.1	149.0
	1,404.8	1,064.5	753.5
<b>Average Prices</b>			
<b>Crude oil and natural gas liquids (per barrel)</b>			
North America	\$ 28.15	\$ 21.04	\$ 12.93
North Sea	\$ 44.61	\$ —	\$ —
Other International	\$ 45.77	\$ —	\$ —
	\$ 29.99	\$ 21.04	\$ 12.93
<b>Natural gas (per thousand cubic feet)</b>			
North America	\$ 4.53	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.12
North Sea	\$ 3.66	\$ —	\$ —
	\$ 4.53	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.12
<b>Drilling activity (net wells)</b>			
North America	812.3	727.3	357.9
North Sea	1.0	—	—
	813.3	727.3	357.9
<b>Core undeveloped land holdings (thousands of net acres)</b>			
North America	6,105	4,849	4,423
North Sea	211	—	—
Offshore West Africa	1,528	—	—

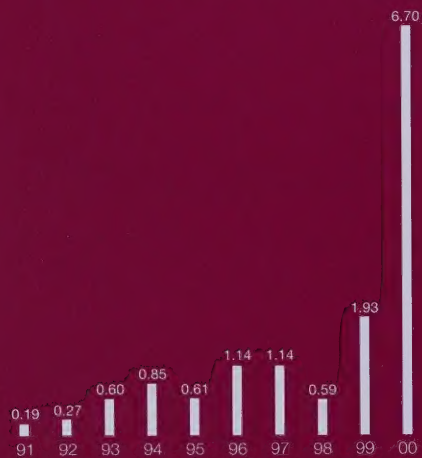
Cash Flow Per Share Attributable to Common Shareholders\* (\$)



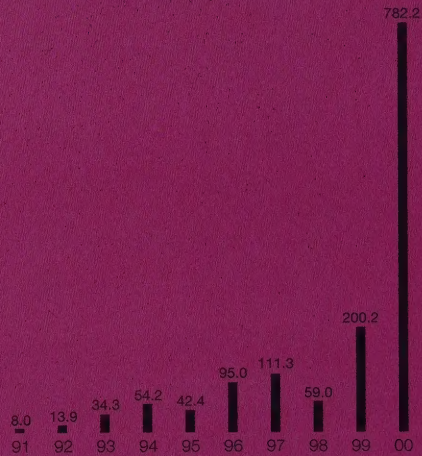
Cash Flow From Operations Attributable to Common Shareholders (\$ millions)



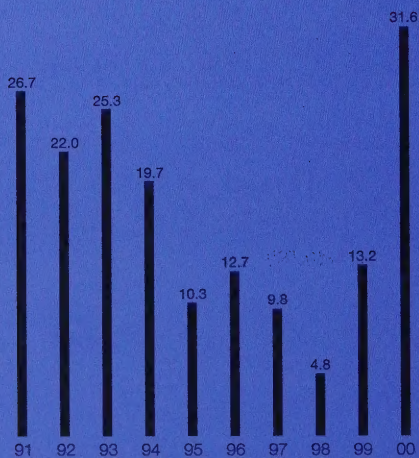
Net Earnings Per Share Attributable to Common Shareholders\* (\$)



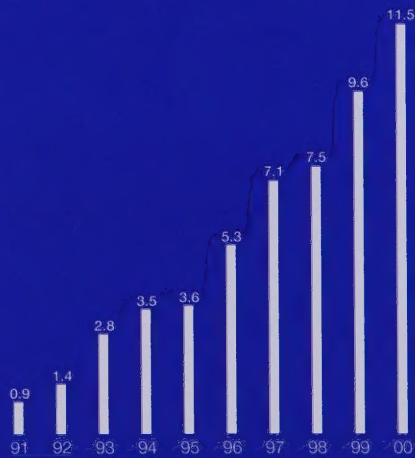
Net Earnings Attributable to Common Shareholders (\$ millions)



Return on Equity (%)



Reserves Per Share\* (boe)



\* Restated to reflect two for one split in June 1993.



The year 2000 developed into another exciting year for Canadian Natural with continued growth and creation of shareholder value. The financial and operating results achieved by our Company reached record levels, far surpassing the targeted levels set at the beginning of the year.

Canadian Natural delivered returns on equity (32 percent) and capital employed (18 percent) that are in the top echelon of our competitive peer group. On a per share basis, the Company saw continued growth in our earnings, reserves and production of oil and natural gas. With our well-defined financial and operating principles and our firmly established growth strategies, Canadian Natural has a clear path to continued profitable growth.

Our long-term growth strategy is based on ensuring financial strength and operational flexibility. Since being adopted in 1989, the success of this strategy has been based on fundamental principles of effective cost controls, manageable bank debt and a defined growth strategy. The central parameter of the growth strategy is to continue to build a diversified asset base which is balanced between heavy oil, light oil and natural gas. In 1999, we substantially increased our asset base through the acquisition of the oil assets of BP Amoco. In July 2000, we executed a further phase in our growth strategy with the acquisition of Ranger Oil Limited ("Ranger"). This acquisition not only expanded our operations in three of our core areas in Western Canada but also established a platform for international operations. Canadian Natural is now in an excellent position to assess and pursue opportunities as they arise in other parts of the world.

### The Ranger Acquisition

The acquisition of Ranger has provided opportunities which are integral to Canadian Natural's growth strategy. We hold a significant amount of undeveloped acreage and infrastructure in the traditional exploration and development areas of the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin. While there remains tremendous opportunities for long-term growth in that basin, we determined that, from a broader perspective, it was also necessary to expand into areas with the potential to further support our strong financial and operational performance. Our criteria for taking such a step was to acquire an operating entity with international operations and near-term production to serve as a foundation for future growth.



*Canadian Natural Management Team*

*Standing: Allan Markin, Réal Doucet, Steve Laut, Philip Dimmock, Allen Knight, Brian Illing, Réal Cusson*

*Seated: Lyle Stevens, John Langille, Tim McKay*

Ranger not only met our criteria, but there were definite synergies with our existing operations. The Canadian assets of Ranger, which accounted for over 50 percent of the acquisition value, were a strong strategic fit with our ongoing Canadian operations. Both companies shared natural gas production and knowledge of reservoirs in Northeastern British Columbia and South Central Alberta. Ranger's heavy oil production area was contiguous with our operations in Eastern Alberta, which has created significant cost-saving opportunities. With the two operational bases combined, future heavy oil development and exploration can be conducted more efficiently and economically. In keeping with our strategy of maintaining a balanced production mix, Ranger's international assets were predominantly light oil.

Ranger also owned a 50 percent interest in a 150-mile insulated heavy oil pipeline transporting oil in our heavy oil corridor of Eastern Alberta. Subsequent to year-end, Canadian Natural acquired the other 50 percent interest, which is the first step for expanding our heavy oil operating activities to capture values beyond the production phase.

Immediately following the closing of the acquisition, Ranger's Canadian operations were integrated with Canadian Natural's operating base and the international office began working together with our head office. We estimate overall cost savings of over \$50 million annually from combining the companies. Internationally the Company has established two core regions - the United Kingdom sector of the North Sea and Offshore West Africa. These regions account for approximately 13 percent of our current production, but provide an important base for further growth in 2001 and beyond.

## 2000 Highlights

Canadian Natural's cash flow for the year amounted to \$1.9 billion or \$16.14 per common share. This level of cash flow was more than 2.5 times 1999 cash flow of \$723 million (\$6.96 per common share). As importantly, we continued to be at the top of our peer group when converting cash flow into earnings, with earnings amounting to 42 percent of cash flow. Total earnings attributable to common shareholders for the year amounted to \$782 million or \$6.70 per common share, approximately four times the record earnings of \$200 million (\$1.93 per common share) reached in 1999. These strong financial results are due to record high production volumes of oil and natural gas, together with increased amounts realized after royalties and operating costs from the sale of these products.



Average production volumes for 2000 were up 48 percent over 1999 to 306,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day, which exceeded the upper end of Canadian Natural's targeted range of volumes for the year. Daily oil production doubled to a yearly average of over 173,000 barrels, while the net amount realized for each barrel of oil grew by 48 percent to \$20.56. Sales of natural gas increased 10 percent to average 794 million cubic feet per day, with the net realized amount growing by 94 percent to \$3.01 per thousand cubic feet. The average sales price received for a barrel of oil in 2000 was \$29.99, while the sales price for natural gas increased to an average of \$4.53 per thousand cubic feet. Cash flow per barrel of oil equivalent increased 76 percent to \$16.86 per barrel of oil equivalent in 2000. This level of cash flow per barrel of oil equivalent enabled Canadian Natural to exceed its targeted recycle ratio of two times with an actual recycle ratio of 2.7 times.

Year-end proven and probable reserves of oil and natural gas exceeded 1.4 billion barrels of oil equivalent, comprised of 900 million barrels of oil and 3 trillion cubic feet of natural gas. This represented a 16 percent increase in natural gas reserves and a 42 percent increase in oil reserves from the beginning of the year. The net present value of these reserves at a 10 percent discount factor is in excess of \$12 billion. The production life of these reserves is 13 years on a barrel of oil equivalent basis, with the natural gas reserve life at 10 years and oil reserves at 14 years.

Proven reserves, which account for over 85 percent of the total reserves, grew over 30 percent to 1.2 billion barrels of oil equivalent. At the end of 2000, approximately 35 percent of the proven reserves were classified as proved undeveloped reserves, reflecting the large strategic base of assets held by Canadian Natural in Canadian oil sands leases. No reserves were recorded for our 100 percent interest in oil sands leases at the newly named Project Horizon oil sands project (formerly known as Mic Mac) in the Fort McMurray area of Alberta.

In 2000, Canadian Natural replaced, on a barrel of oil equivalent basis, more than four times its production. Natural gas production was replaced by reserve additions equal to 2.4 times year 2000 production, while reserve additions replaced oil production by more than five times. This reserve replacement was achieved at an all-inclusive finding and developing cost of \$6.23 per barrel of oil equivalent.

### Clear Path to Profitable Growth

Canadian Natural has consistently delivered value and growth by adhering to our long-term growth plan. With the overriding focus of maintaining balance sheet strength, this plan incorporates a defined strategy that balances exploration and acquisitions with the cost-effective exploitation of producing assets. We focus on core areas where we understand the limitations and extent of both the area and the product produced. We strive to operate all our drilling and production activities with 100 percent working interests. This concentration provides maximum flexibility to drive our own agenda for the timing and extent of our exploration and development plans.

Our strategy of maintaining balance sheet strength and capital discipline was evident in 2000 as we allocated funds to pay down our debt without affecting our production growth. In the second half of the year, we repaid more than \$750 million of debt from cash flow that exceeded our planned capital expenditures. Our net indebtedness of \$2.5 billion at December 31, 2000 represents 1.3 times our cash flow for 2000 and only 1.1 times the annualized fourth-quarter cash flow. In addition, our debt to book equity ratio fell to under 50 percent, at 44 percent, and the fixed-rate portion of our debt increased to 23 percent of total debt as compared to only 6 percent at the end of 1999.

We have established a well-defined asset base with a balanced production mix. Our forecasted production in 2001 on a barrel of oil equivalent basis will be 39 percent natural gas, 30 percent light and medium oil, 20 percent conventional heavy oil and 11 percent heavy oil from thermal operations. In addition, we own assets not typically associated with exploration and development companies. These assets include two operating oil sales pipelines and a 50 percent interest in an electrical co-generation facility, which sells excess electricity into the Alberta electrical grid, as well as an interest in an oil pipeline currently under construction. This balanced asset and production base gives us flexibility to allocate capital expenditures to projects that can provide the greatest long-term value for Canadian Natural. This flexibility also allows us to respond quickly to opportunities as they arise.

Canadian Natural has a strong inventory of projects targeting defined growth over both the short and longer term. Growth in natural gas production will be developed throughout our traditional core areas in Western Canada. Canadian oil production growth in 2001 will come from the low cost heavy oil region at Pelican Lake and the long life reserves at Primrose in Alberta. International oil production growth in 2001 will be concentrated in the North Sea with the completion of permanent production facilities at Kyle and the re-commencement of production from the Banff field, after repairs were made to the Floating Production Storage and Offtake vessel. In 2002, oil production growth will continue from further development drilling at Kyle in the North Sea and development work being carried out in 2001 at the Espoir field in Cote d'Ivoire.

Our longer-term asset base also continues to expand. At the Alberta government land sale held in December 2000, we acquired additional oil sands acreage adjacent to our oil sands project located north of Fort McMurray, Alberta. These additional lands will enhance the long-term growth strategy from the oil sands segment of our business and augment the orderly development of our leases. With this additional acquisition we now hold over 96,000 acres in the area. The lands are conducive to production of oil using both surface mining technology, as well as in-situ recovery processes. We are proceeding with the preparation of the necessary regulatory approvals, scoping and feasibility studies required for ongoing development of this project.

### 2001 Outlook

Production in 2001 is forecast to average 350,000 to 360,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day. Oil production will average 215,000 to 225,000 barrels per day, while natural gas production will average 825 to 850 million cubic feet per day. Using commodity prices in line with the current pricing assumptions in the futures markets, we expect to generate cash flow in excess of \$2.3 billion.

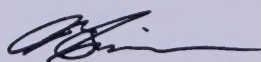
Our capital expenditures for 2001, including a \$250 million provision for acquisitions in the normal course of business, will be \$1.5 billion. Of this total expenditure, approximately 15 percent is allocated to operations outside Canada, \$30 million is directed to the Project Horizon oil sands development and \$50 million is apportioned to pipelines and other midstream assets. The balance of the expenditures will be for exploration and development activities in Canadian Natural's core areas in Western Canada.

The excess of cash flow over planned capital expenditures will be directed to repayment of bank debt and a return to shareholders in the form of a dividend payment pursuant to the Company's recently established dividend policy. In addition, in January 2001, the Board of Directors approved a normal course issuer bid to re-purchase common shares of Canadian Natural on the open market. To the end of February 2001, a total of 604,900 common shares have been acquired by the Company under the bid.

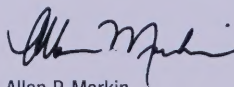
### Welcome and Thank You

We take this opportunity to welcome those employees formerly with Ranger who have continued with Canadian Natural and all the employees who have joined the Company in the last year. Our success would not be possible if it were not for the dedication of our directors and employees acting together with our mission – "to develop people to work together to create value for the Company's shareholders with fun and integrity". Their continuing efforts ensure Canadian Natural will meet or exceed its targets and continue to achieve our goal of creating long-term shareholder value.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,



John G. Langille  
President  
March 20, 2001



Allan P. Markin  
Chairman



## OUR WORLD-CLASS TEAM

Lonnie Abadier	David Bell	Robert Brownless	Judith Cochran	Dease Devine
Cheryl Agnew	David P. Bell	Elizabeth Brownrigg	Sabrina Colangelo	Noreen Devji
Sina Akinsanya	Jon Bell	Gordon Bryant	Martin Cole	Karen DeYaegher
Brian Akre	Ronald Bell	Rick Buchanan	Lillie Collins	Sonia Dhuga
Chris Alderson	Reg Bellanger	Chris Bulley	Brad Cook	Aldo Di Flumeri
Gregory Alexander	Wes Bensmiller	Clarence Bur	Kent Cooper	Karim Mounian Diallo
Elena Algazina	Bonnie Benson	Trevor Burchenski	Gordon Cormack	Sandy Diguier
John Allen	James Bentley	Grant Burgess	Rosetta Cormier	Irene Dikau
Eva Almeida	Linda Bentley	Jacquie Burke	James Corner	Philip Dimmock
Gordon Almond	Linda Beresh	Rick Burns	Wayne Cote	Mike Dingley
Cheryl Ambler	David Berger	Sharon Burns	Juan Cottier	Scott Dionne
Bruce Anderson	Doris Bergeron	Leanne Butz	Dave A. Cousins	Shawn Dobie
John Anderson	Jeffrey Bergeson	Richard Calliou	David H. Cousins	John Dodman
Kelvin Anderson	David Biagi	Ventura Cambundo	Gordon Coveney	Conrad Dombowsky
Murray Anderson	Corey Bleber	Lorraine Cameron	Keith Cowger	Kelly Dombrosky
Richard Anderson	Inge Biener	Tyson Cameron	Nigel Crabb	Manuel Domingos
Todd Andrews	Linda Bigelow	Clayton Campbell	Harry Crabtree	Denise Donald
Gloria Angeles	Rob Blisland	Dean Campbell	Layne Craig	Minh Dong
Kari-Lou Antolic	Roger Bintz	Robert Campbell	Bruce Crain	Veronica Dooling
Shelley Antonuk	Rick Birn	Andre Campeau	Trisha Crawford	Tim Dootka
Cheryl Appleton	Mark Bishop	Maria Campos	Beverley Creed	Sascha Dorer
Jim Archibald	Andrew Bizon	John Capstick	Roger Crichton	Réal Doucet
Evalynn Arden	Kevin Bjornstad	Harley Cardinal	David Cridland	Blair Dow
John Argan	Jennifer Black	Myles Cardinal	Christopher Cross	Dahl Dow
Mark Ariss	Kenneth Blackhall	Sharon Cardinal	Lloyd Cross	Angela Dowd
James Arkley	Barbara Blacklock	Terry Cardinal	Kirby Crowell	Bobby Dreger
Markos Armanious	Kerri Blackmore	Wayne Cardinal	Reynaldo Cruz	Colleen Drury
Rob Armstrong	Melissa Blackwell	Jim Carey	Anthony Csabay	John Drury
Richard Arp	Deana Blais	Ian Carleton	Corinna Culler	Steve Drysdall
Jacqueline Asso	David Blake	Stephanie Carolan	Arley Currie	Jon Dudley
Victoire Sialla Assouhou	Shamane Blake	Rick Carr	Stuart Curtis	Simon Dugdale
Maguy Aude Atheba	Shawna Blanchard	Gary Case	Kenneth Cusack	Albert Duhaime
Clifford Atkinson	Chris Blatchly	Trevor Cassidy	Pat Cusack	Cheryl Dumais
John Atkinson	Dwayne Blenner-Hassett	Neil Cathmoir	Réal Cusson	John Dumais
Aggie AuCoin	Vikki Bochon	Mike Catley	André Da Costa	Giadiola Dumitrescu
Marvin Auger	Darcy Boettger	Nicky Caven	Helder Da Silva	Harry Duncan
Bernard Auger	Marty Boggust	Dante Cay	Ivone Da Silva	Sean Duncan
Leon Auger	Shawn Bond	Ozlem Cetin	Eliane Kodjo Dakaud	Harvey Dutchak
Charles Badiou	Jill Bonkowski	Ernest Chachula	Layne Dalgetty	Scott Dutkiewicz
Janice Baik	Patricia Bookhall	Jeannette Chamberlain	Walter Danchak	Eugene Dyjur
Michael Baik	Jayne Booth	Irene Chamberland	Simon Daniel	Gary Earl
Craig Bailey	Albert Bordeleau	Jik Chan	Gene Danyluk	Kevin Earle
Dwayne Bailer	Kerrie Bordeleau	John Chan	Lynne Darlington	Suzanne Eaton
Fatou Bakayoko	Suzanne Boudignon	Sarah Chan	Todd Davidson	Greg Ecker
Chris Baker	Slade Bowers	Alan Chaney	Randall Davis	James Edens
Reginald Baldock	Donna Bowles	Todd Chapman	Robert Davis	Josephine Angie Edoukou
Vaughn Baldwin	Dale Boychuk	Darryl Charabin	Stephen Davis	John Elgar
Sheldon Ballas	Jeffrey Boyd	Rachel Charman	Leonard Dawe	Carole Eliuk
Darwin Banash	Patrick Boyd	Stephen Chastell	Robert Day	Anthony Ell
Teresa Banny	Aaron Boyer	Mike Chernichen	Claudia De La O	David Ellis
Jack Bardahl	Victoria Boyle	Jerry Chessell	Harry Dean	Jerry Enders
Garry Bardeel	Neil Bozak	William Chiverton	Raymond Dechaine	Rommel Engler
Larry Bardeel	Bryan Bradley	Jessica Choi	Roland Dechesne	Joanne English
Suchada Barker	Marianne Brady	Raymond Chong	Ian DeGiano	Sean Estell
Carey Barnstable	Eleanor Brananagh	Wayne Chorney	Barbara Deglow	Monique Evans
Lisa Barrett	Myron Brataschuk	Sherry Chow	Bonnie Deis	Maureen Evers-Dakers
Paul Barrett	Brad Braun	Jeannie Choy	Eric de Kock	Mike Eynon
Carrie Barter	Rob Braun	Alphonse Chretien	Benita DeLorenzo	Heather Fahey
Marty Bartman	Colin Brausen	Heather Church	Michael Delorme	Catherine Falconer
Colin Beaman	Joseph Breland	Kadia Cisse	Karen Demers	Andy Fankhauser
Laurier Beaunoyer	Paul Breland	Stella Clapham	Peter Dempsey	Denise Farrell
John Becher	Barry Brick	William Clapperton	Edward Deren	Tim Farrell
David Bechtel	Ken Brinkac	Andrea Clark	Betty Der-Griffiths	Arthur Faucher
Robert Befus	Shawn Brockhoff	Mike Clark	Catherine Desjarlais	Karman Fayant
Paul Beilby	Clint Brooks	Greg Clegg	Michael DesRoches	Brian Fehr
Lesley Belcourt	Steve Brown	Dale Coburn	Laurie Devey	Ira Feland

Kurt Fenrich	Jenise Hagel	Qi Jiang	Robert Larson	Peter Manchak
Joaquim Fernandes	Egbert Hagens	Agostinho Joao	Daniel Lastiwka	Mike Manchen
Magdalena Ficek	Sam Hajar	Terry Jocksch	William Latchuk	Leonard Mandrusiak
Darren Fichter	Shemin Haji	David Johnson	Glenda Latham	Darcy Mandziak
Jerry Field	Dean Halewich	Evan Johnson	Janet Latour	Phil Mann
Michael Filipchuk	Rick Halkow	Greg Johnson	Joan Latter	Roy Marcenik
Rod Fitzpatrick	Robert Hallett	Jeffrey Johnson	Steve Laut	Ronald Marcichiwi
Craig Flanagan	Jim Hamilton	Delbert Jones	Ewen Lawrence	Allan Markin
Debbie Flanagan	Tim Hamilton	Mark Jones	Brian Lawson	Andy Marsh
Paul Flanders	Kevin Hamm	James Jung	Lezlie Lawson	Sally Marshall
Ken Fleck	Rick Hammond	Dale Kachowski	Sharon Layton	Robert Martin
Rodney Flett	Dave Handy	Asif Kachra	Greg Lazaruk	Richard May
Trevor Flood	Kent Hardisty	Carol Kadutski	Susan Leak	Brent May
Edmond Foisy	Ken Harke	Raymond Kahanyshyn	Margo Lebel	Deirdre Mazur
Hop Chi Fong	Erik Haroldson	Brad Karaja	Murray Lechelt	Toni McCarthy
Gregory Fontaine	Bill Harris	Alice Karg	Dale Lee	Christina McGeough
Robert Fontaine	David Harris	Doug Kary	Earl Leer	Brenda McGinnis
Adele Forcade	Jody Harris	Lynn Kasper	Kevin Legault	Frances McGlynn
Curtis Formanek	Roger Harris	Shelina Kassam	Mark Leggett	Robert McGowan
Randy Formanek	Lisa Hartman	Myles Kathman	Mark Lenson	Bruce McGrath
Devon Fornwald	Mike Hart	Deanne Katnick	Gary Leong	Carol McGrath
Peter Fowler	Jerry Harvey	Christopher Kean	Stephen Lepp	Mavis McGuire
Donald Fox	Wayne Hatton	Philip Keele	Gerry Leslie	Karen McInnis
Ron Frank	David Haywood	John Kellie	Marcus Lethaby	Carmen McKay
Jody Franz	Angela Head	Wayne Kennedy	Esther Leung	Kim McKay
Gail Fraser	Jay Heagy	Mary Jane Kerrison	Sandy Leung	Lindsey McKay
Ken Frazer	Larry Heath	Blair Kessler	Maurice Levac	Rod McKay
Kelly Freed	Terry Heck	Kimberly Kieft	Tracy Levasseur	Tim McKay
Roger Frere	Steve Hedley	Stan Kimmie	Tracy Levia	Beth McKendrick
Brad Friesen	Ken Hedstrom	James King	Shelly Lewchuk	David McKinnon
Kenneth Friesen	Judy Henderson	Richard King	Craig Lewington	Douglas McLachlan
Kevin Frieth	Mark Hendricks	Stacey King	Heather Lichtenbelt	Marla McLean
Frank Frosini	Anita Hennig	Steve King	Sydney Lillies	David McNamara
Karen Fujimoto	Lesley Henty	Marvin Kinsman	Bonnie Lind	Elaine McPherson
Arlene Furjanic	Judith Hermann	Patrick Kirrane	Dale Lloyd	Casey McWhan
Josephine Gaddi	Michele Herron	Brent Kissel	Kendall Locke	Barry Meier
Leonard Gadowski	Dan Hiebert	Mario Kiteculo	Carolyn Lockyer	Daniel Meier
Sharon Gaehring	Matthew Higgins	Cody Klatt	Joy Lofendale	Kelly Meier
Kelly Gagne	Gordon Hill	Yvonne Kloiber	Shauna Logan	Monty Meikle
Scott Gair	Michael Hill	Allen Knight	Randal Logelin	Belinda Meller
Larry Galea	Jocelyn Hillier	Emmanuel Koffi	Rodney Logozar	Jean Melnychuk
Ron Gall	James Hinde	Danell Kokol	Brandice Long	Melissa Melnychuk
Michael Gallon	Barbara Hofer	Eva Komers	Stuart Lonsdale	Timothy Merk
William Galloway	Kevin Hoium	Ibrahim Kone	Darin Lorenson	Danny Merkle
Yoko Galvin	Chris Hojnik	Diane Kostuk	Bob Lorinczy	Dwight Mervold
Alicia Garay	Andrew Holding	Ann Kostyshyn	Nancy Lotocki	Jeaneta Mesquita
Gerri Gaughan	Tony Holland	Richard Kowalski	Darryl Lowe	Rick Meyers
Maurice Gauthier	Linda Holman	Kevin Kowbel	Devin Lowe	Murray Michie
Alain Gbo	Ian Holmes	Cameron Kramer	Gerd Lucas	Dale Midgley
William George	David Holt	Trevor Krause	Don Luckinbill	Jane Mikalsky
Michel Germain	Carolyn Honeyman	Todd Kreics	Michel Lufiauluisu	Jacqueline Miko
Raymond Germain	Shannon Hood	Jeffrey Kreiser	Wes Lundell	Kathy Mikulcik
Clark Getz	Hans Hoogendam	Patti Krekoski	Rees Lusk	Jeffrey Miller
Helga Giles	Bill Horne	Peter Krol	Wendy Lutzen-Askew	Marsha Miller
Ralph Gill	Keith Hornseth	Gary Krushell	Kelly Ma	Noel Millions
Sharen Gillett	Joanne Huang	Gabriel Krywolt	Peter Macdonald	John Mills
Doug Ginn	Judy Huebert	Chris Kubisch	Allan MacKenzie	Ronald Mills
Francis Gladue	Mark Hughes	Frank Kurucz	Graeme MacKenzie	Chris Millyard
Marvin Gladue	Terry Humble	Myron Kusiak	Ken MacKenzie	Michelle Minick
Russell Glead	Robert Hunter	Harvey Kville	Ryan MacKenzie	Denis Mino
David Golden	Ray Hutscal	Kelly Kwiatkowski	Shawn MacKenzie	Kerry Minter
Susan Gole	Bruce Hutt	Loretta Kwiatkowski	Joseph MacKinnon	Maria-Celeste Miranda
Yvon Gosselin	Donald Huxley	Angele Kwon	Susan MacLean	Charlene Misurelli
Allan Gould	Matthew Ilchuk	Bob Kylo	Anne MacNeil	Stacey Mitchell
Sandra Goundrey	Brian Illing	Philippa LaBossiere	Marilyn Macoy	Derek Moir
Jacqui Grant	Brad Inman	Mitzi LaChance	Jane Mactaggart	Rosa Moises
David Gratton	Anne Irving	Phillip Lafond	Bruce Maddex	Mimi Mok
Derek Greidanus	Karen Ivan	Michael Lahure	Moises Madelena	Rick Monteith
Robert Gullion	Ken Jackson	Cassandra Lai	Markus Maennchen	Paula Montgomery
Shane Gullion	Ken Jacobson	Sing Lai	Mike Magnusson	Melinda Moore
Swarna Gunaratne	Todd Jacula	Mahmud Lalani	Bill Mah	Jason Moravec
Carolyn Gunderson	Chris James	Jacqueline Lamb	Joey Majerech	Anne-Marie Moreno
Edward Gushnowski	Leonard Janzen	Richard Lameman	Anita Mak	Marcia Morgan
Elaine Gussman	Calvin Jarratt	John Langille	Jim Mak	Nicolette Morgan
Graham Gustafson	Brent Jensen	Carolyn Langpap	John Malachowski	Shaun Morozuk
Russ Guyatt	Kevin Jensen	Pamela Lapp	Lawrence Malek	Justin Morrison
Violet Haddad	Parry Jensen	Melvin Lapratt	James Maloney	Wesley Morrow



Carole Morton	Brenda Peterson	Uranela Samardzic	Robert Stevenson	Gale Wagner
Robert Mosoronchon	Henry Petrie	Erin Sanderson	Lorie Stewart	Joy Wagner
Paul Mossey	Rodney Petrie	Pearl Sands	Wendy Stewart	Douglas Waliliko
Donald Mudryk	Lucyna Pettigrew	Joselina Santos	Bill Stiles	Marie Wallace
Wayne Mudryk	Tom Phan	Rosa Santo	Stewart Stirling	Blaise Wangler
Lee-Ann Mules	Ron Pilisko	John Sargent	Katrina Stockman	Douglas Ward
Dean Murray	Susan Pinel	Lisa Saumier	Wade Strand	Kirk Ward
William Muss	Nigel Platt	Marlene Saunders	Rodney Strate	Wanda Warman
Kevin Mutch	Donna Playfair	Christine Savary	Pamela Strauss	Theron Warner
Luciano Muzzin	Louis Plouffe	Luc Savoie	William Strecker	Marguerite Wassmer
Lorna Myers	Ted Plouffe	Denise Sawchyn	Bill Stretch	Debra Waterhouse
Scott Myers	Hector Poirier	Robert Schaap	Kevin Stromquist	Abena Watson
David Myshak	Marie-Anne Poirier	Judy Schafer	Stephen Suche	Randall Weeks
Melonie Mysczyszyn	Eleanor Polson	Alison Scheers	Vartan Sultanian	Lionel Weinrauch
Richard Nachtgaele	Robert Pool	Lance Schelske	Shiraz Sumar	Isaac Wellard
Elly Nance	Chris Poole	Sally Schick	Rick Swanson	Mark Wenner
Rick Napier	Carol Porter	Ronald Schlachter	Halina Swierz	Stuart Wesson
Bill Navratil	Patti Pustiewaite	Todd Schlaht	Jill Symonds	Darcy Weston
Randy Necedder	Jeffrey Poth	Beat Schmid	Shane Sypher	Jeremy Wetsch
Vincent Nelson	Neil Powell	Raquel Schmidt	Troy Tangedal	Terry Wetzstein
Brad Nessman	Susan Powell	Valerie Schmidt	Nick Tannahill	Bob Wheeler
Monty Neudorf	David Pratt	Craig Schneider	Krystalle Tanner	Francis White
Jason Newman	Adela Prior	Ronald Schnieder	Boyd Tarasoff	Ken White
John Newman	Jacques Proulx	Stephen Schofield	Ron Taron	Heather Whynot
Kevin Newton	Janet Quarrie	Norm Schonhoffer	Joanne Taubert	Debbie Wiens
Thu-Van Nguyen	Maurice Raiwet	Emily Schroeder	Barry Taylor	Cameron Wietzel
Tai Nguyen	Myron Rak	Anna Schuler	Bill Taylor	Bill Williams
Fawn Nichol	Maritess Ramirez	Donna Schuler	Cathy Taylor	Grant Williams
Lyle Nichols	Kerri Ramsbottom	Stephen Schultheiss	George Taylor	Ebonie Williamson
Josie Nicolajsen	Stojan Ratkovic	Marilyn Schultz	James Taylor	Jeff Willick
Ian Noble	Brenda Read	Lorne Schwetz	Mike Taylor	Robert Willis
Scott Noble	Duane Reber	Lorraine Schwetz	Verlynn Taylor	Susan Wills
David Noel	David Reddeciliff	Curtis Scott	Robert Templeton	Christian Willson
Greg Nolin	Bernie Redlich	John Scott	Leighton Tenn	Curtis Wilson
Robert Norman	Lori-Anne Reed	Marjorie Scott	Kurt Tenney	Darryl Wilson
Troy Normand	Tim Reed	Ronalda Scott	Rob Tenney	Jeff Wilson
Darcy Nowak	Duncan Rehm	Brian Segouin	Marilyn Tenold	Nancy Wilson
Edward Nunes-Vaz	Carmon Reich	Roland Senecal	Kate Terry	Shari Wilson
Kelvin Nurkowski	Jim Reichert	David Sergeant	Marc Theroux	Woodrow Wilson
Robert Nuytten	Stefan Reiter	Ken Seymour	Karen Thistleton	Patrick Wiltse
Wayne Nyhoit	Pat Reynolds	Gilbert Shantz	George Thomas	Garrett Wirachowsky
Jason Nykolaychuk	Warne Rhoades	Marilyn Shaw	Laurie Thomas	Paul Wiseman
Katie Oates	George Rhyason	Dorothy Shea	Herb Thompson	Scott Wolfson
Vicky Oldham	Robert Richardson	Robert Shears	Mark Thompson	Colin Woloshyn
Dianne Oliveira	Wesley Richardson	Judi Shermerhorn	Scott Thompson	Jennifer Wong
Antonella Olivito	Robert Riddell	Annette Shillam	Todd Thomson	Kitty Wong
Jason Oliikha	Joanne Riggaill	Jill Shipton	Bruce Thornton	Bette Wood
Richard Olsen	Carl Ringdahl	Wayne Sikorski	Keith Thornton	Roxanne Wood
Vane Orcutt	Robert Ringuette	Jilleen Simpson	Margaret Thurmeier	Gail Woodhall
Steve O'Reardon	Jimmie Roberts	Dennis Sinclair	Terry Tillotson	Gloria Woods
Flora O'Reilly	Elaine Roberts	Christine Siu	Brian Timmerman	Daron Woolf
Colette Orr	Dale Robertson	Michael Skipper	Simon Timothy	Sidney Wosnack
Neil Orr	Nancy Robertson	Doreen Smale	Al Tokarchik	Raymond Wourms
Wayne Otteson	Reg Robertson	David Smart	Dale Tomlinson	Brent Wychopen
Jolanta Ouellette	Gene Robinson	Bonnie Smith	Derek Toulelan	Guy Wylie
Peter Owens	Roger Rodermond	Jim Smith	Catherine Trenouth	Valerie Wyonczek
Dennis Ozaruk	Louis Romanchuk	Lawrence Smith	Michelle Trepanier	James Yaroslowsky
Doug Page	Dwayne Romanovich	Tina Smith	Terry Turgeon	Betty Yee
Marcus Pagnucco	Joy Romero	Allen Smyl	David Turk	Gordon Yee
Tammy Palardy	Linda Romness	Heidi So	Annette Turner	Michael Yee
Michael Palmer	Dennis Ross	Lumba Soma	Stanley Turner	Tony Yip
William Palmquist	Graham Rosso	David Spetz	Gregory Ulrich	Vikki Yip
Bernard Parenteau	Rick Rosychuk	Melanie Sprake	Allan Valentine	Flint York
Clement Parenteau	Tom Roth	Lawson Squire	Louis Vallee	Daryl Youck
David Parker	Lorraine Rothfus	Glen Squires	Richard Van Appelen	Richard Young
Lawrence Paslawski	Scott Rowin	Roy St. Pier	Karen Van Breda	William Yuill
Randy Passmore	Alvin Rubbelke	Robert St. Amant	Vyvette Vanderputt	Glenn Zeebregts
Rick Pay	Bruce Russell	Ian Stacey-Salmon	Collin Vare	Diane Zelznick
David Payne	Mark Russell	Stacey Stadnyk	Dale Vickery	Denis Zentner
Dean Payne	Colin Russett	Rodney Stahn	David Vieira	Brenda Ziegler
Laurel Payten	Matthew Russett	Karen Stairs	Wilf Vielhuth	
Shawn Pedersen	Brian Rutledge	Randy Stamp	Andrew Vinnall	
Brian Pederson	Hal Rutz	Kris Stark	Victoria Vinkle	
Kevin Pennington	Tony Sabelli	Scott Stauth	Nigel Vivian	
John Perepelecta	Mikael Sabo	Jerry Stefanyshyn	Leo Vollmin	
Tarla Persaud	Lupita Saldivar	Wayne Steffen	Duncan Wade	
Bill Peterson	Pedro Salomao	Lyle Stevens	Dwight Wagner	

## OPERATIONS

With the acquisition of Ranger Oil Limited, Canadian Natural acquired a presence in oil and natural gas operations outside Canada.

We continued to achieve growth in all facets of our operations.

### Undeveloped Land

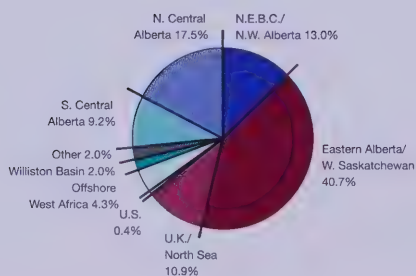
Canadian Natural continued to increase its undeveloped lands in Canada with undeveloped net acreage growing 15 percent to 6.3 million net acres from 5.5 million net acres in 1999. This acreage was added in the Company's core regions. A significant core landholding is a main ingredient in establishing a long-term, profitable program of exploration and exploitation of oil and natural gas reservoirs.

### Canadian Landholdings

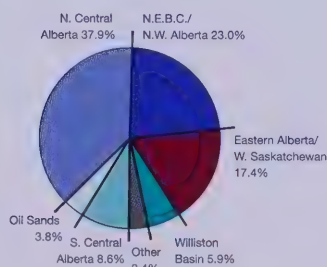
(thousands of acres)	2000			1999		
	Gross Acres	Net Acres	Average Interest %	Gross Acres	Net Acres	Average Interest %
Developed	4,345	3,398	78	3,961	3,151	80
Undeveloped	7,615	6,276	82	6,231	5,439	87
Total	11,960	9,674	81	10,192	8,590	84

The acquisition of Ranger moved the Company into new areas of international operation. The acquisition established an undeveloped land base for Canadian Natural in new operating areas in the North Sea and Offshore West Africa.

**Reserves**  
(%)



**Canadian Undeveloped Landholdings**  
(%)





The undeveloped land is situated in the following core regions:

### Net Undeveloped Land

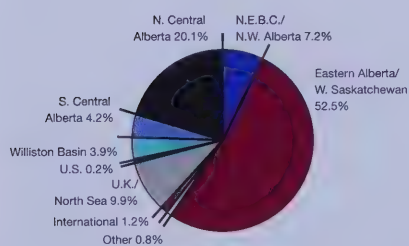
(thousands of net acres)	2000	1999
Northeastern British Columbia/Northwestern Alberta	1,442	1,258
North Central Alberta	2,378	2,235
Alberta Oil Sands	221	—
Eastern Alberta/Western Saskatchewan	1,090	695
South Central Alberta	539	216
Williston Basin	369	445
United States Gulf Coast	66	—
United Kingdom North Sea	211	—
Offshore West Africa	1,528	—

### Seismic

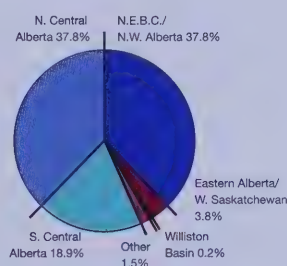
With the Company's emphasis on internally-generated prospects, both two- and three-dimensional seismic are an important key to success. In Canada, Canadian Natural invested \$26.9 million in 2000 to acquire new seismic data and to purchase and reprocess existing data. In total, the Company shot 2,900 kilometres of conventional seismic, and 34 square kilometres of three-dimensional data. Canadian Natural also purchased in excess of 12,000 kilometres of conventional seismic and 135 square kilometres of three-dimensional data.

Internationally, Canadian Natural uses seismic extensively to determine the viability of its exploration prospects. Since commencing operations outside Canada, the Company has been actively involved in seismic programs covering over 51,000 kilometres of conventional seismic and over 4,100 square kilometres of three-dimensional data.

Crude Oil and NGLs Production  
(%)



Natural Gas Production  
(%)



## Drilling Activity

Canadian Natural's strategic philosophy is to drill in areas where the Company has a high degree of geological and technical knowledge. It is also the Company's strategy to operate all of its wells, and to own a significant percentage of such wells.

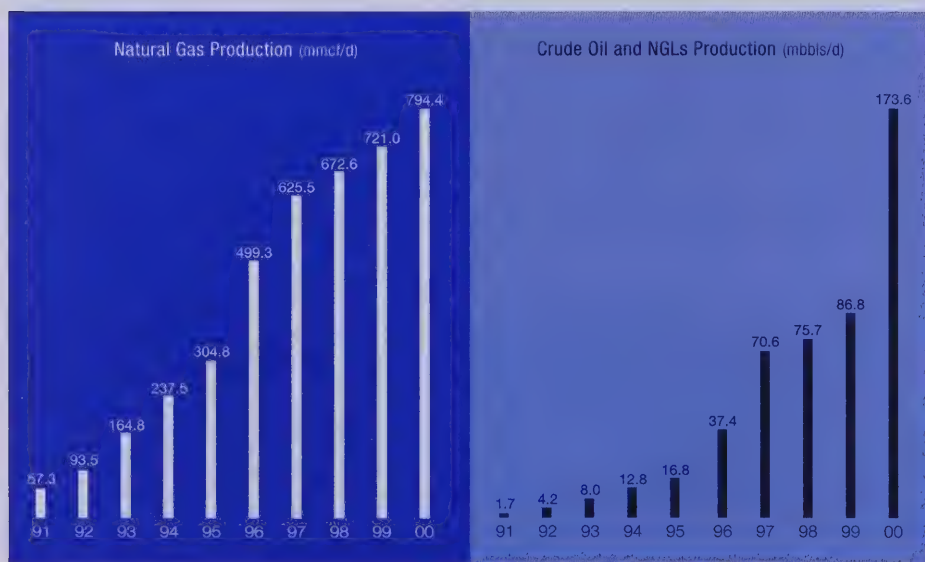
In 2000, Canadian Natural drilled a total of 813.3 net wells resulting in 408 natural gas wells, 333 oil wells and 38 injector or stratigraphic wells for an overall success rate of 96 percent.

### Drilling Activity

	2000		1999		1998	
(number of wells)	Gross	Net	Gross	Net	Gross	Net
Natural gas	474	408.1	481	457.6	216	193.2
Oil	375	333.1	229	211.5	120	106.5
Injection/strat tests	42	37.7	11	8.9	20	15.5
Dry	46	34.4	54	49.3	48	42.7
Total	937	813.3	775	727.3	404	357.9
Success Rate		96%		93%		88%

Of the total wells drilled in 2000, 810 net wells were drilled in Canada with 808 located in the Company's core regions. Shallow natural gas wells in the Company's South Central Alberta region accounted for 232 wells, while 76 natural gas wells were drilled in Northeastern British Columbia, five were drilled in Eastern Alberta, and a further 94 were drilled in North Central Alberta. Of the total oil wells drilled in Canada, 172 were heavy oil wells in the Eastern Alberta region, including Primrose, 119 were oil wells at Pelican Lake and 40 light oil wells were drilled in Northeastern British Columbia, Northwestern Alberta and the Williston Basin.

Internationally, the Company participated in 3.3 net wells after acquiring Ranger, of which 2.3 net wells were in the United States.





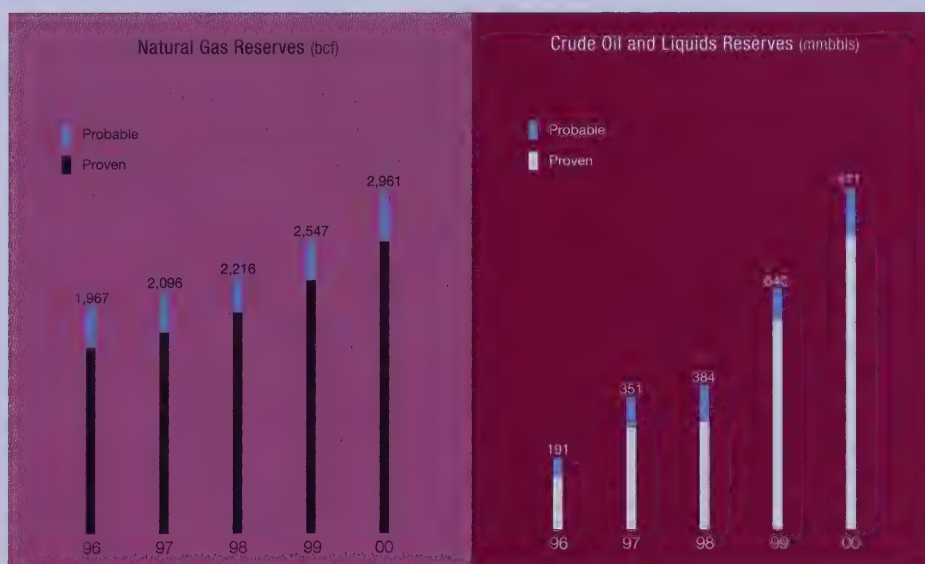
## Drilling Activity by Core Region

(net wells)	2000	1999
Northeastern British Columbia/Northwestern Alberta	103.1	73.7
North Central Alberta	244.6	158.6
Eastern Alberta/Western Saskatchewan	210.1	136.3
South Central Alberta	238.0	344.6
Williston Basin	12.5	14.1
United States Gulf Coast	2.3	—
United Kingdom North Sea	1.0	—

## Production and Sales

Average production volumes for the year 2000 increased 48 percent over 1999 to 306,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day, which exceeded the upper end of Canadian Natural's targeted range of volumes. Natural gas production climbed 10 percent to an average 794 million cubic feet per day. Production from the Northeastern British Columbia/Northwestern Alberta region increased 20 percent to average 300 million cubic feet per day. Production from the North Central Alberta region also amounted to 300 million cubic feet per day, consistent with the prior year. The shallow natural gas area of South Central Alberta contributed production of 150 million cubic feet per day, a 12 percent increase from 1999.

Oil production averaged 173,591 barrels per day, more than double the oil production achieved in the prior year. Production from the heavy oil area of Eastern Alberta/ Western Saskatchewan more than doubled to average 91,000 barrels of oil per day. Low cost production from Pelican Lake also doubled to an average of 35,000 barrels per day. Light oil production equal to 38,000 barrels per day for the second half of the year was contributed by producing fields in the North Sea and Offshore West Africa. Production of light oil in the fourth quarter of the year was reduced due to the sale, effective October 1, 2000, of approximately 3,000 barrels per day from Canadian non-operated properties and the planned short-term curtailment of production from the Banff and Kyle fields in the North Sea.



## Reserves and Reserve Replacement

The majority of Canadian Natural's reserves at the end of 2000 were evaluated by independent outside engineers and reviewed by the Reserve Committee of the Board of Directors. Year-end proven and probable remaining reserves of oil and natural gas exceeded 1.4 billion barrels of oil equivalent, comprised of 900 million barrels of oil and three trillion cubic feet of natural gas. This was a 16 percent increase in natural gas reserves and a 42 percent increase in oil reserves from the beginning of the year. The net present value of these reserves at a 10 percent discount factor is in excess of \$12 billion. The production life of these reserves is 13 years on a barrel of oil equivalent basis, with a natural gas reserve life of 10 years and an oil reserve life of 14 years.

Proved reserves, which account for over 85 percent of the total reserves, grew over 30 percent to 1.2 billion barrels of oil equivalent. At the end of 2000, approximately 35 percent of the proven reserves were classified as proved undeveloped reserves, reflecting the large strategic base of assets held by Canadian Natural in Canadian oil sands leases. The proportion of Canadian undeveloped reserves has remained constant from the prior year with 18 percent of the natural gas reserves and 42 percent of the oil reserves being classified as undeveloped. No reserves were recorded for Canadian Natural's 100 percent interest in oil sands leases at Project Horizon (formerly known as Mic Mac) in the Fort McMurray area of Alberta.

In 2000, Canadian Natural replaced, on a barrel of oil equivalent basis, more than four times its production. Natural gas production was replaced by reserve additions equal to 2.4 times natural gas production, while oil production was replaced with reserve additions greater than five times oil production during the year. This reserve replacement was achieved at an all inclusive finding and development cost of \$6.23 per barrel of oil equivalent.

### Reserve Reconciliation

	North America	North Sea	Other International	Total
<b>Crude oil and liquids (mbbls)</b>				
<b>Proven Reserves</b>				
Reserves, January 1, 1999	287,005	—	—	287,005
Discoveries and purchases	289,223	—	—	289,223
Property disposals	(110)	—	—	(110)
Production	(31,664)	—	—	(31,664)
Revisions of prior estimates	9,102	—	—	9,102
Reserves, January 1, 2000	553,556	—	—	553,556
Discoveries and purchases	144,338	105,453	36,046	285,837
Property disposals	(15,135)	—	—	(15,135)
Production	(56,485)	(6,293)	(756)	(63,534)
Revisions of prior estimates	16,135	2,750	1,400	20,285
<b>Reserves, January 1, 2001</b>	<b>642,409</b>	<b>101,910</b>	<b>36,690</b>	<b>781,009</b>
<b>Probable Reserves</b>				
Reserves, January 1, 1999	97,188	—	—	97,188
Discoveries and purchases	408	—	—	408
Property disposals	(45)	—	—	(45)
Revisions of prior estimates	(11,183)	—	—	(11,183)
Reserves, January 1, 2000	86,368	—	—	86,368
Discoveries and purchases	21,765	34,850	8,790	65,405
Property disposals	(9,512)	—	—	(9,512)
Revisions of prior estimates	(10,580)	(2,300)	900	(11,980)
<b>Reserves, January 1, 2001</b>	<b>88,041</b>	<b>32,550</b>	<b>9,690</b>	<b>130,281</b>
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>730,450</b>	<b>134,460</b>	<b>46,380</b>	<b>911,290</b>



## Reserve Reconciliation (continued)

	North America	North Sea	Other International	Total
<b>Natural gas (mmcf)</b>				
<b>Proven Reserves</b>				
Reserves, January 1, 1999	1,905,194	—	—	1,905,194
Discoveries and purchases	564,941	—	—	564,941
Property disposals	(19,883)	—	—	(19,883)
Production	(263,165)	—	—	(263,165)
Revisions of prior estimates	(4,013)	—	—	(4,013)
Reserves, January 1, 2000	2,183,074	—	—	2,183,074
Discoveries and purchases	516,923	88,711	64,000	669,634
Property disposals	(41,081)	—	—	(41,081)
Production	(290,190)	(551)	—	(290,741)
Revisions of prior estimates	(8,626)	3,200	1,390	(4,036)
<b>Reserves, January 1, 2001</b>	<b>2,360,100</b>	<b>91,360</b>	<b>65,390</b>	<b>2,516,850</b>
<b>Probable Reserves</b>				
Reserves, January 1, 1999	310,547	—	—	310,547
Discoveries and purchases	67,567	—	—	67,567
Property disposals	(7,185)	—	—	(7,185)
Revisions of prior estimates	(6,686)	—	—	(6,686)
Reserves, January 1, 2000	364,243	—	—	364,243
Discoveries and purchases	63,310	21,280	3,700	88,290
Property disposals	(4,480)	—	—	(4,480)
Revisions of prior estimates	(20,931)	1,500	15,560	(3,871)
<b>Reserves, January 1, 2001</b>	<b>402,142</b>	<b>22,780</b>	<b>19,260</b>	<b>444,182</b>
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>2,762,242</b>	<b>114,140</b>	<b>84,650</b>	<b>2,961,032</b>

Canadian Natural retains independent petroleum engineering consultants Sproule Associates Limited (for the Canadian assets), Ryder Scott Company (for the United States assets) and AEA Technology (for the international assets), to evaluate the Company's proven and probable oil and natural gas reserves and prepare Evaluation Reports on the Company's total reserves. For the year ended December 31, 2000, the independent evaluators' reports covered 98 percent of the Company reserves with the Company internally evaluating the remaining two percent, which are generally comprised of reserves in properties not currently strategic to the core business areas. Sproule's report covers 98 percent of the Canadian reserves, which corresponds to 82 percent of the Company's total reserves. The Board of Directors of the Company has a Reserve Committee which met with Sproule and carried out independent due diligence procedures as to the Company's Canadian reserves. Canadian Natural's reserves before royalties are summarized in the following tables:

## Reserve Evaluation

as at January 1, 2001	Company interest reserves before royalty			Present value before tax of future cash flow (\$ millions) <sup>(1)</sup>	
	Crude oil	Liquids	Natural gas	10%	15%
	(mbbls)	(mbbls)	(mmcf)	\$	\$
Proven <sup>(2)</sup>	765,771	15,238	2,516,850	11,274	9,622
Probable <sup>(3)</sup>	125,675	4,606	444,182	822	656
Total January 1, 2001	891,446	19,844	2,961,032	12,096	10,278
Total January 1, 2000	619,417	20,507	2,547,317	7,166	5,885
Change	+44%	-3%	+16%	+69%	+75%

## Reserve Evaluation (continued)

- Value includes additions for processing revenue, the Alberta Royalty Tax Credit and the value of the corporate capital gas cost allowance and is reduced for United Kingdom income tax and estimated abandonment costs associated with North Sea producing assets.
- The proven reserves are categorized as follows:

	Crude oil & liquids	Natural gas	Present Value before tax of future cash flow (\$ millions)	
	(mbbls)	(mmcf)	10%	15%
Proven developed producing	402,977	1,725,915	8,160	7,160
Proven developed non-producing	46,748	242,689	838	700
Proven undeveloped	331,284	548,246	2,276	1,762
	781,009	2,516,850	11,274	9,622

- Value of the probable reserves are reduced by 50 percent to account for risk.
- Future oil price forecasts used in the Evaluation Report were based on Sproule's January 1, 2001 pricing model and adjusted for quality of reserves, while future natural gas price forecasts were provided by the Company based on existing and forecasted future gas marketing arrangements entered into by the Company. The prices used in the Evaluation Reports are as follows:

### Oil

	Company Average Price	WTI at Cushing Oklahoma	Edmonton Par Price	Brent UK
	(Cdn\$ per bbl)	(US\$ per bbl)	(Cdn\$ per bbl)	(US\$ per bbl)
As at December 31, 2000				
2001	28.52	28.20	41.87	26.60
2002	26.41	24.41	35.85	22.78
2003	23.64	21.12	30.44	19.47
2004	23.64	21.44	30.95	19.76
2005	23.59	21.76	30.96	20.06
As at December 31, 1999				
2000	20.53	20.00	27.51	—
2001	19.42	20.30	27.13	—
2002	18.80	20.60	27.15	—
2003	18.97	20.91	27.56	—
2004	19.24	21.23	27.98	—

### Natural Gas

	Company Average Price	Henry Hub Louisiana	Company Alberta blended	Company British Columbia blended
	(Cdn\$ per mcf)	(US\$ per mmbtu)	(Cdn\$ per mmbtu)	(Cdn\$ per mmbtu)
As at December 31, 2000				
2001	8.78	6.34	8.40	9.02
2002	6.00	4.56	5.87	6.09
2003	4.99	3.88	4.91	4.98
2004	4.78	3.73	4.76	4.59
2005	4.69	3.63	4.75	4.34
As at December 31, 1999				
2000	3.14	2.56	3.05	3.04
2001	3.12	2.53	3.04	3.04
2002	3.22	2.62	3.14	3.11
2003	3.31	2.73	3.24	3.18
2004	3.40	2.82	3.33	3.28



## Natural Gas

The average North American natural gas price of US \$3.91 per mmbtu for 2000 was up 72 percent over 1999 as measured by the NYMEX benchmark price. The relatively mild weather experienced in the first quarter of 2000 resulted in an average price of US \$2.49 per mmbtu, which was followed by very strong demand from the electrical generation segment for the rest of the year. Spot prices in the fourth quarter were extremely volatile due to strong weather-related demand. December spot prices exceeded US \$10.00 per mmbtu in several markets and reached US \$45.00 per mmbtu at the California borders.

Canadian prices followed a similar pattern and the 2000 average Alberta price improved 69 percent over 1999 to \$5.02 per mmbtu. The Alliance Pipeline started up in December and is providing 1.3 billion cubic feet per day of incremental export capacity for Western Canadian natural gas, which should strengthen domestic prices even more as they should track the American prices more closely. Additional export pipeline projects are being proposed for 2002 to serve growing demand in the Pacific Northwest and California.

The record 8,933 natural gas wells completed in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin in 2000 were barely sufficient to offset the normal declines from existing producing wells and maintain a flat overall average production level for the year. Similarly, the 15,206 natural gas completions in the United States netted a marginal increase in dry natural gas production of one percent compared to the previous year.

The volume of Canadian Natural's natural gas sales in 2000 increased by 10 percent over 1999 to 794 million cubic feet per day and the average realized price at the wellhead was up 92 percent to \$4.53 per thousand cubic feet. The portfolio of direct sales represented 76 percent of the total volume with the remaining 24 percent split among the main supply aggregators to which the Company has dedicated reserves. During the year 2000, 83 percent of the Company's natural gas sales were floating at prevailing market prices.

The current market fundamentals highlight a very tight supply environment with natural gas storage levels at their lowest in the last five years and West Coast water reservoirs running close to their minimum operating levels. The annual growth for natural gas demand in North America is forecasted at two percent for next year, driven by a very strong electrical generation sector. The major new sources of natural gas from the Arctic and the Canadian East Coast are still several years away from reaching markets. These fundamentals suggest a very robust pricing scenario over the next several years for Canadian Natural's natural gas production which, in 2001, will amount to 825 to 850 million cubic feet per day. In 2001, 87 percent of Canadian Natural's natural gas sales will receive the prevailing market price. The other 13 percent of the Company's natural gas sales will receive a fixed price of \$2.93 per thousand cubic feet.

## Crude Oil

Crude oil prices continued their spectacular recovery in 2000 with the annual average price up 57 percent over 1999 to US \$30.20 as measured by the North American benchmark crude West Texas Intermediate (WTI). Increased demand for motor gasoline and distillates in the American markets and better discipline from OPEC producers caused inventories to be drawn down to their minimum operating levels which resulted in volatile pricing often peaking over US \$32.00 per barrel.

The shortfall of refined products in 2000 allowed refinery margins to recover from their abysmal level of US \$2.00 in 1999 to US \$8.00 per barrel and contributed to the American decision to release some 30 million barrels of primarily light sweet crude oil from the US strategic reserves in November. The OPEC countries responded with increased volumes in the fourth quarter most of which were heavier crude types. The above factors contributed to a widening of heavy oil differentials to WTI which averaged US \$8.23 per barrel for Lloyd blend for the year.

Canadian Natural's average crude oil production for 2000 increased by 100 percent over 1999 to 173,591 barrels per day. The Company's overall production mix was made up of 45 percent light and medium oil, 52 percent heavy oil (15° API or less) and three percent natural gas liquids. There were no pipeline constraints during the year and diluents used for heavy oil blending were available, although they became progressively more expensive throughout the year.

The Company realized an overall average wellhead price of \$29.99 per barrel in 2000, up 43 percent from the previous year. Canadian Natural plans significant growth in its liquids volumes for 2001. Total annual production is expected to average 215,000 to 225,000 barrels per day, comprised of 47 percent light and medium oil, 51 percent heavy oil and two percent natural gas liquids.

The market fundamentals are still strong for the oil business in 2001. World inventories are just starting to rebuild from minimum operating levels and OPEC producers are seemingly determined to maintain prices around US \$25.00 per barrel for WTI. The Company expects OPEC to agree to further reductions in their production volumes as needed to maintain that level of pricing. Canadian Natural expects that any reduction would be accomplished primarily by cutting out heavier grades of crude oil, which would help reduce differentials for Canadian heavy oil.

Canadian Natural has taken steps to further improve the economics for its heavy oil production. The Company now owns 100 percent of the Echo Pipeline which can transport up to 58,000 barrels per day of raw bitumen from its producing fields to Hardisty and 15 percent of the Cold Lake Pipeline Partnership that transports 220,000 barrels per day of blended bitumen from Primrose to either Edmonton or Hardisty. These strategic investments, along with our 62 percent interest in the Pelican Lake Pipeline with a capacity of 150,000 barrels per day, will further reduce our overall transportation costs to markets. Canadian Natural is also exploring the potential for strategic alliances with refiners to gain access to increased conversion capacity for its heavy oil grades.



## Environment

Canadian Natural is committed to protecting the natural environment through the application of sound operational practices, consistent regulatory compliance and minimization of corporate environmental liability.

To meet these objectives, the Company has implemented and maintains an Environmental Management Plan, which in conjunction with Environmental Operating Guidelines, insures minimum impact to the environment.

Regularly scheduled audits and inspections of Company operated properties are undertaken yearly, with 275 assessments in 2000. An active decommissioning, reclamation and abandonment program is continually maintained. In the year 2000, Canadian Natural abandoned 372 wells in Canada.

Canadian Natural has been an active member of the Voluntary Challenge for reducing greenhouse gas emissions since 1996, and has been successful in reducing its production carbon intensity (PCI) and production energy intensity (PEI) each year. In the year 2000, as a prudent operator, Canadian Natural has implemented gas conservation programs that will reduce over one million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent emissions per year.

Ongoing public involvement is an important focus to continue to operate effectively, and for the successful implementation of new projects. Along with ongoing individual and community consultations, regional multi-stakeholder working groups are becoming effective processes for addressing cumulative effects issues.

## Health and Safety

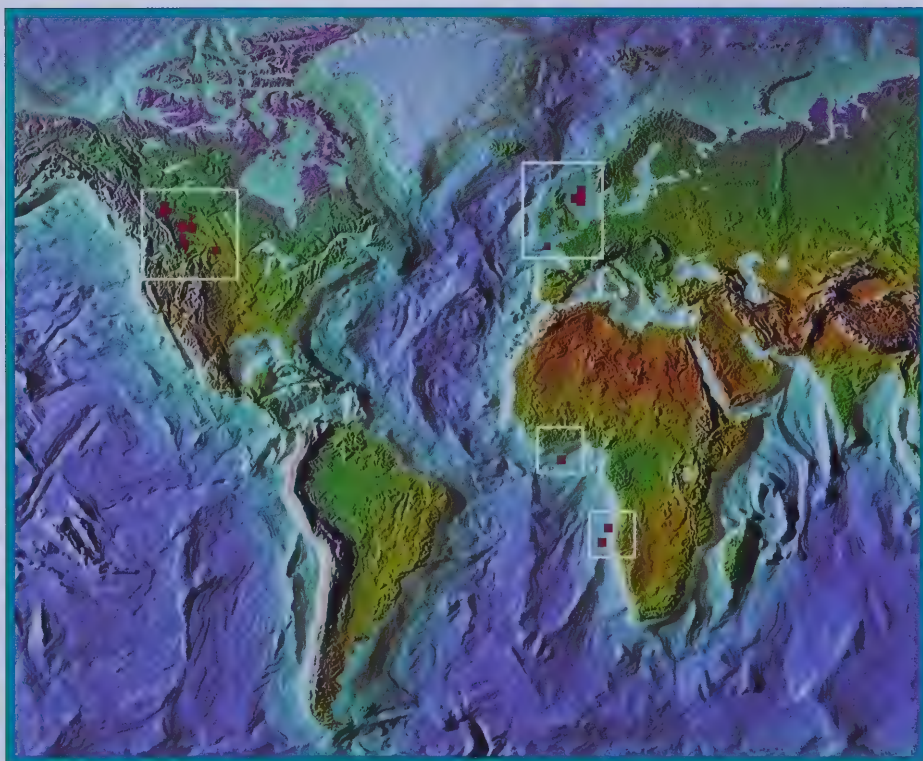
Canadian Natural's Health and Safety Program integrates health and safety into all aspects of its operations. Through the Company's Comprehensive Safety and Emergency Response Manual and the Employee Guide to Accident Prevention, Canadian Natural has been able to educate our workers to help meet our goal of zero loss time accidents. The Company has further developed an in-house Health and Safety Management System to enhance our monitoring and help in planning future programs.

In the year 2000, Canadian Natural developed and implemented a site supervisor safety training course. This course was made mandatory for all field operations personnel working for Canadian Natural. Since its inception, over 900 individuals have been trained in site safety.

Canadian Natural, through its safety program, also regularly audits its major facilities. In the year 2000, 90 audits were completed. These audits are completed to help our operations people to reduce the risk of accidents to individuals, environment and properties.

Canadian Natural's core operating areas are located in the Western Canadian Sedimentary Basin, the North Sea and Offshore West Africa. These core areas comprise production of natural gas, light oil, medium oil, conventional heavy oil, and thermal heavy oil and provide short-term and long-term growth opportunities.

Assets such as oil pipelines and a co-generation plant have been added to Canadian Natural's asset base to provide further balance to its operations.



## Major Properties Reserves and Values

(as at January 1, 2001)

Region	Crude oil and NGLs		Natural gas		Value*	
	mbbls	%	mmcf	%	\$ millions	%
North America						
Northeastern British Columbia/						
Northwestern Alberta	33,255	3.6%	893,192	30.2%	2,390	19.8%
Eastern Alberta/Western Saskatchewan	542,408	59.6%	175,787	6.0%	3,051	25.3%
North Central Alberta	99,062	10.9%	880,000	29.7%	3,195	26.4%
South Central Alberta	22,184	2.4%	645,740	21.8%	1,624	13.4%
Williston Basin	25,672	2.8%	17,638	0.6%	272	2.2%
Other Canada	7,105	0.8%	122,023	4.1%	364	3.0%
Alberta Royalty Tax Credit and						
Corporate Capital Gas Cost Allowance					83	0.7%
United States Gulf Coast	764	0.1%	27,862	0.9%	107	0.9%
<b>Total North America</b>	<b>730,450</b>	<b>80.2%</b>	<b>2,762,242</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>11,086</b>	<b>91.7%</b>
International						
North Sea	134,460	14.7%	114,140	3.8%	815	6.7%
Offshore West Africa	46,380	5.1%	84,650	2.9%	195	1.6%
<b>Total International</b>	<b>180,840</b>	<b>19.8%</b>	<b>198,790</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>1,010</b>	<b>8.3%</b>
<b>Total Company</b>	<b>911,290</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,961,032</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>12,096</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* Estimated future net revenues as evaluated in the Reserve Evaluation (page 17).

## Natural Gas

Canadian Natural is one of the largest independent producers of natural gas in North America and a dominant producer in Canada. The majority of the Company's natural gas production is in Western Canada, with small volumes from the North Sea and offshore in the United States Gulf Coast. Natural gas production in 2000 averaged 794 million cubic feet per day and accounted for 43 per cent of the Company's overall production on a barrel of oil equivalent basis.

Canadian Natural's strategy is to combine a balance of exploration, development and exploitation projects ranging from shallow gas drilling to deeper, high impact gas targets.

The Company's North Central Alberta region is characterized by low risk, multi-zone drilling to depths up to 3,000 feet. Profitability in the area is increased by the Company's large infrastructure which provides for efficient well development, including minimization of tie-in and operating costs. The region accounted for 300 million cubic feet per day of natural gas production in 2000.

Canadian Natural's deeper gas plays are concentrated in the Northeastern British Columbia/Northwestern Alberta region. Targets in this region are typically up to 5,000 feet, but yield large reserves and have lower production decline rates than in the Company's other areas. Production of natural gas from this region grew from 250 million to 300 million cubic feet per day in 2000. Operating costs are controlled by the Company's strategy of dominating the land base and infrastructure.



Shallow gas drilling is concentrated in South Central Alberta which is characterized by low risk drilling, low operating costs and extensive existing infrastructure. Unlike the Company's other two regions, which have areas with winter access only, drilling can take place year round. In 2000, production from this area averaged 150 million cubic feet per day of natural gas, a 12 percent increase over the prior year.

In mid 2000, the Company acquired 450 sections of land in the Colville Hills area of the Northwest Territories and is commencing a seismic program to evaluate these lands. In 2001, Canadian Natural has budgeted to spend \$290 million for natural gas exploration and development. Exploration activities include exploring the deeper portion of the basin in British Columbia and Northwestern Alberta.

### Light Oil

Light oil accounted for 18 percent of Canadian Natural's overall production in 2000 and, with the acquisition of Ranger properties, volume increases are expected in 2001. Half of the Company's light oil comes from Western Canada, with the other half being produced in the North Sea and Offshore West Africa.

In Canada, light oil drilling activities in 2000 were focused in Southeastern Saskatchewan and Northeastern British Columbia. In addition, Canadian Natural continues to optimize oil recovery from known reservoirs of light oil in its core regions. This program includes further downspacing and in-fill drilling, complemented by the application of advanced innovative technology in waterflood implementation and optimization, horizontal drilling and other production techniques.

In the North Sea, a Ranger operated well was drilled at Kyle and tested at 10,000 barrels of oil per day and 13 million cubic feet per day of gas. The Company has a 40 percent interest in the well which will be tied in during the second quarter of 2001 at an estimated production rate, net to the Company, of 7,000 barrels per day and 5 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. At the Banff field, problems with the Floating Production Storage and Offtake vessel are being resolved by the contractor and production is also expected to be back onstream in the second quarter of 2001 at a net production rate of 5,000 barrels of oil per day.

### North Sea



## Heavy Oil

Canadian Natural has become a dominant producer of heavy oil with extensive operations using both primary and thermal production techniques. Heavy oil and Pelican Lake production accounted for 39 percent of overall production in 2000 on a barrel of oil equivalent basis.

### Typical Operating Parameters

	Initial Rate per well bbl/d	Reserves Per Well MMSTB	Operating Costs \$/bbl <sup>(1)</sup>	API <sup>o</sup>	Recovery Factor %
Primary-Bonnyville	50 – 150	100 – 200	5.50	12 – 14	3 – 20
Pelican Lake Horizontal	200 – 400	200 – 500	2.00	14 – 17	6 – 12
Thermal Cyclic Primrose	100 – 400	450 – 900	6.66	11	18 – 25
Thermal SAGD	400 – 600	750 – 1000	7.50	9	60 – 80

(1) Assumes AECO gas price of \$5.00 per thousand cubic feet.

### Heavy Oil Leases



### Primary – Bonnyville

Primary heavy oil production is also known as cold production. Under this technique, the energy required to flow the heavy oil to the wellbore comes from solution gas. Recovery by this method ranges from three to 20 percent of the original oil-in-place, depending on the amount of solution gas and the viscosity of the oil.

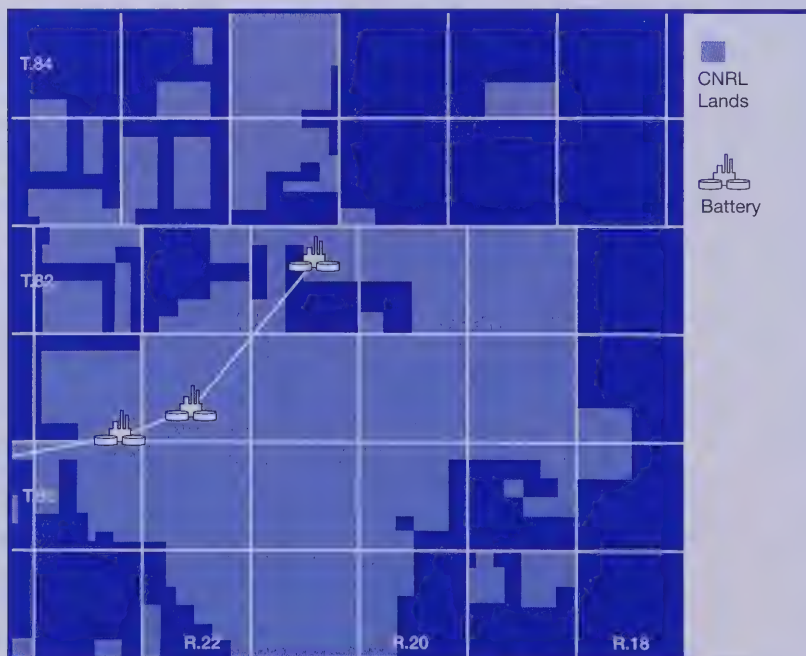
Canadian Natural continues to be a low cost producer of heavy oil, a key component in maintaining profitability. This has been achieved by holding a dominant position that includes having built a significant land base and an extensive facility infrastructure of batteries and disposal facilities. Lands acquired in the Ranger acquisition were also located in this area, with much of their land being contiguous to Canadian Natural's holdings. The Company's production of primary heavy oil, amounts to approximately 60,000 barrels per day. As part of the acquisition of Ranger, the Company also acquired a 50 percent interest in an oil transportation pipeline and in 2001 acquired the remaining 50 percent. This pipeline will enhance further development of Canadian Natural's extensive holdings in this area.

### Pelican Lake

One of the Company's most significant producing properties under development is Pelican Lake in North Central Alberta. Activities in 2000 included the drilling of 119 horizontal wells which were producing an average of 157 barrels of oil per well per day at the end of the year. In addition, gas conservation facilities were improved and the Company now sells approximately 25 million cubic feet per day of natural gas from this property. Operating costs in this area are low due to no sand production or disposal requirements, the gathering and pipeline facilities in place, and negligible water production and disposal.

In 2001, Canadian Natural has added to its holdings in this area through the acquisition of additional producing lands adjacent to its existing holdings. After this acquisition Canadian Natural holds and controls in excess of 80 percent of the known oil pools in this area. Development drilling will be ongoing throughout 2001.

### Pelican Lake





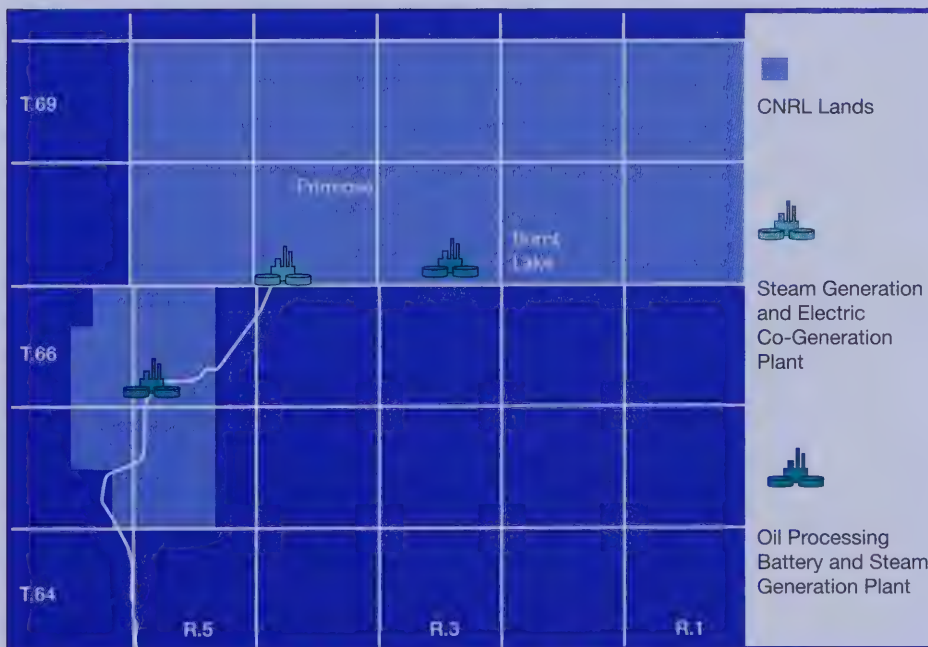
## Thermal Production

Thermal production involves processes which utilize steam to increase the recovery of heavy oil. The two processes employed by Canadian Natural are cyclic steam stimulation and steam-assisted gravity drainage (SAGD). Both recovery processes utilize the injection of steam (heat) into the heavy oil deposits to reduce the oil viscosity and improve its flow characteristics.

The Primrose region in Northeastern Alberta is Canadian Natural's main producing area utilizing thermal recovery processes. Production averaged over 30,000 barrels of oil per day utilizing thermal recovery. The Company currently has three significant developments in the area: cyclic steaming in the Clearwater formation, SAGD in the Grand Rapids formation and a SAGD pilot in the Clearwater formation.

At Primrose, the Company is replacing the existing low pressure cyclic steam process with a higher pressure process. This process allows the heat to be injected more efficiently and significantly increases the calendar daily oil rate. In 2000, two existing low pressure pads, consisting of 20 wells, were converted to high pressure steaming and two new pads totaling 24 wells were drilled. The results of the process conversions at the 20 existing wells has increased production from 100 to 190 barrels of oil per calendar day per well. The new high pressure wells that were drilled in 2000 initially produced 600 barrels of oil per day per well and should average 400 barrels of oil per calendar day per well. The results from these wells have established the benefits of Canadian Natural's strategy of converting the Primrose field to high pressure steaming. Subject to receiving regulatory approval, the Company is planning to convert an additional 60 wells to high pressure steaming in 2001 and to convert the remaining 250 wells to the high pressure process in 2002.

## Primrose



The Company has continued to develop its SAGD recovery process in the Grand Rapids formation. Pilot operations commenced in 1997 on a single well pair. This well pair continues to average 500 to 600 barrels of oil per day and has recovered 34 percent of the oil in place to date. Oil recoveries of 60 to 80 percent of the oil in place are expected. In 2000 the Company continued this development with the drilling of five additional well pairs that are currently being steamed. In 2001 the Company is drilling an additional 21 well pairs that will take the SAGD process in this reservoir to full commercial scale.

At Burnt Lake the Company is continuing pilot tests on three SAGD well pairs in the Clearwater formation. Operations commenced in 1997 on these wells which are currently producing 500 barrels of oil per day per well pair. In 2000 optimization of the SAGD process resulted in a 35 percent improvement in thermal efficiency.

Primrose is a long-term heavy oil project that generates substantial recycle ratios at average prices as shown below.

#### **Primrose Oil Economics**

<b>WTI Price US\$/bbl</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>20.00</b>
<b>WTI – LLB Differential US\$/bbl</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>6.00</b>
Hardisty Price US\$/bbl	\$	14.00
Exchange Rate		0.65
Hardisty Price Cdn\$/bbl	\$	21.54
Transportation Cdn\$/bbl	\$	1.25
Blending	\$	4.56
<b>Wellhead Netback Cdn\$/bbl</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>15.73</b>
Gas Price \$/mcf	\$	5.00
Steam Oil Ratio (SOR)		3.4
Steam Costs \$/bbl (oil)	\$	5.41
Lifting Costs \$/bbl	\$	1.25
Total Operating Costs \$/bbl	\$	6.66
<b>Net Operating Income \$/bbl</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9.07</b>
Interest \$/bbl	\$	1.50
G&A \$/bbl	\$	0.40
<b>Cashflow \$/bbl</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>7.17</b>
Onstream Costs \$/bbl	\$	3.00
<b>Recycle Ratio</b>		<b>2.39</b>

## Oil Sands – Project Horizon

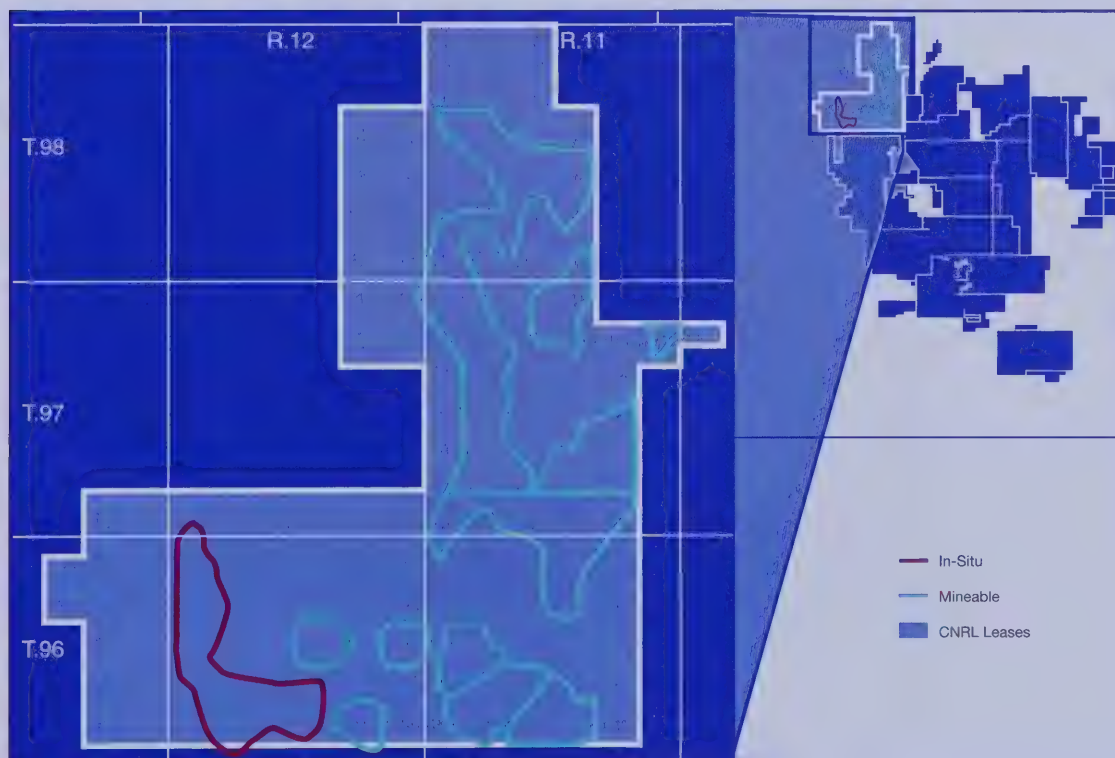
Project Horizon (formerly Mic Mac Oil Sands) is being pursued for its significant long-term potential. Canadian Natural owns leases on a total of 96,259 acres of oil sands, in the Fort McMurray area, containing mineable and in-situ bitumen. The oil sands lie close to the surface and, once overburden is stripped away, the bitumen can be removed and trucked to a processing plant for extraction and upgrading to synthetic oil.

In December 2000, the Company increased its oil sands holding in the area by 37,948 acres. This additional land has doubled the estimated productive life of the project to more than 50 years of synthetic crude production at a rate of 300,000 barrels of bitumen, which will be processed into 240,000 barrels of synthetic crude oil per day. The target is to begin construction of facilities in 2004 with production commencing in 2009.

Located 75 kilometres north of Fort McMurray, Alberta, the project infrastructure will include a mine, in-situ facilities to produce bitumen, and an upgrader for preparing synthetic crude oil for markets. The project is being designed with fully-integrated facilities on site, which presents opportunities for energy conservation between the plants and synergies through the shared use of infrastructure.

Canadian Natural is proceeding with the necessary approval, scoping and feasibility studies in connection with this project. Activities underway include ore body and reservoir definition, application for regulatory approval and an environmental impact assessment. Other activities include process optimization, market evaluation and the preparation of a preliminary estimate to finalize the business plan.

## Project Horizon





Canadian Natural achieved record results in many areas of financial and operational performance in 2000, by surpassing the targeted levels set at the beginning of the year, maintaining its balanced asset and production base, and expanding internationally.

The following discussion details Canadian Natural's 2000 financial results compared to 1999 and 1998, including its capital program and outlook for 2001.

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes for a full understanding of the financial position and results of operations of Canadian Natural Resources Limited ("Canadian Natural" or the "Company"). All amounts are expressed in Canadian dollars. A barrel of oil equivalent ("boe") is based on a conversion rate of six thousand cubic feet of natural gas to one barrel of oil. Certain information regarding the Company contained herein may constitute forward-looking statements under applicable securities laws. Such statements are subject to known or unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those anticipated or implied in the forward-looking statements.

### Corporate Acquisition

In July 2000, Canadian Natural acquired all of the outstanding shares of Ranger Oil Limited ("Ranger"). The purchase price of the acquisition was \$1,687.3 million and consisted of \$722.8 million in cash, 7.6 million common shares valued at \$358.0 million and the assumption of \$606.5 million of Ranger net long-term debt, preferred securities and non-cash working capital deficit.

The acquisition of Ranger provided Canadian Natural with significant additional Canadian oil and natural gas properties, the majority of which fit strategically with Canadian Natural's property base. In addition, the acquisition of Ranger provided the Company with a low risk platform of producing properties and exploration and development opportunities in the international arena. The North Sea and other international segments add balance to Canadian Natural's production profile through light oil production growth.

Ranger's operations were integrated with Canadian Natural's ongoing organizational structure immediately after completion of the acquisition. Canadian properties owned by Ranger were combined into Canadian Natural's core areas. Canadian assets not strategic to Canadian Natural's ongoing operations were sold effective October 1, 2000. The non-North American assets owned by Ranger continued to be managed from an office in the United Kingdom with direct management participation from Canadian Natural's head office.

## Net Earnings and Cash Flow

(\$ millions, except per share)	2000	1999	1998
Net earnings attributable to common shareholders	\$ 782.2	\$ 200.2	\$ 59.0
Per share	\$ 6.70	\$ 1.93	\$ 0.59
Cash flow attributable to common shareholders	\$ 1,883.6	\$ 723.5	\$ 444.2
Per share	\$ 16.14	\$ 6.96	\$ 4.47
Net earnings as a percentage of cash flow	41.5%	27.7%	13.3%
After-tax return on equity	31.6%	13.2%	4.8%
After-tax return on capital	18.1%	8.4%	4.0%

Canadian Natural continued to achieve significant increases in its financial and operating results and in generating growth in shareholder value. Net earnings attributable to common shareholders increased 291 percent in 2000 to a record \$782.2 million, up from \$200.2 million in 1999 and \$59.0 million in 1998. Cash flow attributable to common shareholders increased 160 percent to \$1,883.6 million (\$16.14 per share), up from \$723.5 million (\$6.96 per share) in 1999 and \$444.2 million (\$4.47 per share) in 1998.

The record level of net earnings and cash flow in 2000 resulted from significant increases in commodity prices and higher production volumes. In 2000, Canadian Natural's average price per boe increased to \$28.77 from \$17.03 in 1999 (1998 – \$12.80). Production volumes increased 48 percent to 305,987 boe per day from 206,992 boe per day in 1999 (1998 – 187,851 boe per day). The increase in production volumes was due to the inclusion of a full year of production from properties acquired from Blue Range Resource Corporation ("Blue Range") and BP Amoco p.l.c. ("BP Amoco") in the third quarter of 1999, the acquisition of Ranger, and an active drilling and property acquisition program. Canadian Natural's after-tax return on shareholders' equity climbed to 31.6 percent in 2000 from 13.2 percent in 1999 (1998 – 4.8 percent) and has averaged 16.5 percent over the past three years.

## Gross Revenue

(\$ millions, except per unit)	2000	1999	1998
Oil and liquids	\$ 1,906.4	\$ 666.3	\$ 357.8
Per barrel	\$ 29.99	\$ 21.04	\$ 12.93
Natural gas	\$ 1,316.1	\$ 620.5	\$ 519.8
Per mcf	\$ 4.53	\$ 2.36	\$ 2.12
Total gross revenue	\$ 3,222.5	\$ 1,286.8	\$ 877.6
Per boe	\$ 28.77	\$ 17.03	\$ 12.80

## Analysis of Changes in Gross Revenue

(\$ millions)	Changes Due To			Changes Due To			2000
	1998	Volumes	Prices	1999	Volumes	Prices	
North America							
Oil and liquids	\$ 357.8	\$ 52.0	\$ 256.5	\$ 666.3	\$ 522.2	\$ 402.5	\$ 1,591.0
Natural gas	519.8	37.4	63.3	620.5	63.9	629.7	1,314.1
	877.6	89.4	319.8	1,286.8	586.1	1,032.2	2,905.1
North Sea							
Oil and liquids	—	—	—	—	280.8	—	280.8
Natural gas	—	—	—	—	2.0	—	2.0
	—	—	—	—	282.8	—	282.8
Other International	—	—	—	—	34.6	—	34.6
Total							
Oil and liquids	357.8	52.0	256.5	666.3	837.6	402.5	1,906.4
Natural gas	519.8	37.4	63.3	620.5	65.9	629.7	1,316.1
	\$ 877.6	\$ 89.4	\$ 319.8	\$ 1,286.8	\$ 903.5	\$ 1,032.2	\$ 3,222.5

Canadian Natural's gross revenue rose 150 percent to \$3,222.5 million from \$1,286.8 million in 1999 (1998 – \$877.6 million). For the year 2000, 10 percent of Canadian Natural's total revenue was generated outside of North America, with the North Sea accounting for nine percent and other international accounting for one percent.

The world oil price continued to improve in 2000 due to the effects of market supply and demand. The West Texas Intermediate ("WTI") oil price increased 57 percent to average US \$30.20 per barrel, up from US \$19.24 in 1999 (1998 – US \$14.43 per barrel). Canadian Natural's oil price increased 43 percent to average \$29.99 per barrel, up from \$21.04 and \$12.93 per barrel in 1999 and 1998 respectively.

The price realized by Canadian Natural from its sales of oil was reduced by \$1.89 per barrel in 2000 (1999 – \$1.22 reduction per barrel, 1998 – \$0.96 increase per barrel) due to price arrangements entered into to fix the price received on a portion of its oil volumes. The price differential between light oil and heavier quality crude oil increased to historically high levels in December 2000. This wide differential resulted in Canadian Natural's sales price received for its oil production decreasing in the fourth quarter. However, Canadian Natural's balanced portfolio of properties resulted in a five percent increase to \$32.82 in the realized price per boe from the third to fourth quarter of the year. North America's realized average price, for oil produced in 2000, increased 34 percent to \$28.15 per barrel from \$21.04 per barrel in 1999 (1998 – \$12.93 per barrel). The North Sea price averaged \$44.61 per barrel and the other international price averaged \$45.77 per barrel in 2000.

Revenue derived from the sale of natural gas accounts for over 40 percent of Canadian Natural's 2000 total revenue. This is lower than the previous two years as a result of improvements in world crude oil fundamentals and the increase in Canadian Natural's crude oil production. The sales price of natural gas increased to historically high levels as Canadian Natural received \$4.53 per thousand cubic feet in 2000, a 92 percent increase over the 1999 price of \$2.36 per thousand cubic feet (1998 – \$2.12 per thousand cubic feet). Arrangements entered into by Canadian Natural to fix the price of a portion of its natural gas sales resulted in a reduction of \$0.39 per thousand cubic feet (1999 – \$0.16 reduction per thousand cubic feet, 1998 – \$0.01 increase per thousand cubic feet). The percentage of natural gas sales subject to these arrangements continued to decrease from 38 percent in 1999 to 21 percent in 2000 (1998 – 46 percent), and is expected to be nine percent in 2001. The price increase of natural gas resulted from higher demand for natural gas, while supply remained fairly constant. Factors affecting the supply-demand fundamentals in North America included cold winter temperatures in the fourth quarter, low inventory levels, an increase in gas-fired power generation and increases in export capacity.

## Production

### Production Volumes

	2000	1999	1998
North America			
Oil and liquids (bbl/d)	154,331	86,750	75,744
Natural gas (mmcf/d)	792.9	721.0	672.6
North Sea			
Oil and liquids (bbl/d)	17,195	–	–
Natural gas (mmcf/d)	1.5	–	–
Other International			
Oil and liquids (bbl/d)	2,065	–	–
Total			
Oil and liquids (bbl/d)	173,591	86,750	75,744
Natural gas (mmcf/d)	794.4	721.0	672.6
Barrel of oil equivalent (boe/d)	305,987	206,922	187,851



Canadian Natural's daily oil production increased 100 percent to average 173,591 barrels in 2000 from 86,750 barrels in 1999 (1998 – 75,744 barrels). The increase in oil production resulted from the acquisition of Ranger, a full year of production from oil producing properties acquired in the third quarter of 1999 from BP Amoco, and a successful drilling program. North Sea oil production averaged 17,195 barrels of oil per day in 2000 (34,203 barrels per day since acquisition). North Sea oil volumes in the fourth quarter of 2000 decreased by approximately 7,000 barrels per day, mainly due to the planned short-term curtailment of production from the Banff and Kyle fields. Daily oil production from the North Sea is expected to increase in 2001 as the Banff and Kyle fields recommence production in the second quarter of 2001. Other international production added 2,065 barrels per day in 2000 (4,107 barrels per day since acquisition).

Substantially all of Canadian Natural's gas production is from North America. Daily natural gas production increased 10 percent to 794.4 million cubic feet from 721.0 million cubic feet in 1999 (672.6 million cubic feet in 1998). The 2000 increase was due to the Ranger acquisition, a full year of production from primarily natural gas producing assets acquired in the third quarter of 1999 from Blue Range and a successful drilling program. Natural gas production in the North Sea is expected to be seven million cubic feet per day when the Banff and Kyle fields recommence production in 2001.

The production mix for the year 2000 consisted of 18 percent light oil, nine percent medium oil, 30 percent heavy oil and 43 percent natural gas. In 2001, the production mix is expected to be 21 percent light oil, nine percent medium oil, 31 percent heavy oil and 39 percent natural gas.

## Royalties

(\$ millions, except per unit)	2000	1999	1998
North America	\$ 491.1	\$ 187.9	\$ 116.8
Per boe	\$ 4.68	\$ 2.49	\$ 1.70
Percentage of revenue	16.9%	14.6%	13.3%
North Sea	\$ 15.1	\$ –	\$ –
Per boe	\$ 2.36	\$ –	\$ –
Percentage of revenue	5.3%	–%	–%
Total	\$ 506.2	\$ 187.9	\$ 116.8
Per boe	\$ 4.51	\$ 2.49	\$ 1.70
Percentage of revenue	15.7%	14.6%	13.3%

North American royalties increased to \$4.68 on a per boe basis, up from \$2.49 in 1999 (1998 – \$1.70). Crude oil and liquids royalties increased 41 percent on a per barrel basis to \$3.17 in 2000 from \$2.25 in 1999 (1998 – \$1.66), and increased as a percentage of revenue to 11.2 percent from 10.7 percent (1998 – 12.8 percent) due to higher prices received in 2000. The majority of Canadian Natural's oil sands projects continue to benefit from the program to promote development of Alberta's oil sands resources, which provides a reduced royalty rate until an oil sands project recovers its capital costs.

North Sea royalties averaged \$2.36 per boe in 2000. New fields, including Banff and Kyle, are not subject to royalties. Oil royalties in the fourth quarter increased to \$2.89 per barrel, 6.6 percent of revenue, from \$2.00 per barrel in the third quarter as a result of the planned curtailment of production from the Banff and Kyle fields. It is anticipated that the average royalty rate in 2001 will decrease when these fields recommence production.

Natural gas royalties are sensitive to price changes and increased as a percentage of gross sales due to the higher sales price received in 2000. Natural gas royalties increased to 23.8 percent of revenue or \$1.08 per thousand cubic feet in 2000 from 18.6 percent of revenue or \$0.44 per thousand cubic feet in 1999 (1998 – 13.7 percent or \$0.29 per thousand cubic feet).

## Production Expense

(\$ millions, except per unit)	2000	1999	1998
North America	\$ 462.6	\$ 252.0	\$ 211.9
Per boe	\$ 4.41	\$ 3.34	\$ 3.09
North Sea	\$ 54.9	\$ –	\$ –
Per boe	\$ 8.60	\$ –	\$ –
Other International	\$ 15.4	\$ –	\$ –
Per boe	\$ 20.41	\$ –	\$ –
Total production expense	\$ 532.9	\$ 252.0	\$ 211.9
Per boe	\$ 4.76	\$ 3.34	\$ 3.09

Production expense increased to \$4.76 per boe in 2000 from \$3.34 in 1999 (1998 – \$3.09 per boe). North American production expense increased to \$4.41 per boe compared with \$3.34 per boe in 1999 (1998 – \$3.09 per boe). Crude oil and liquids production expenses increased 30 percent to \$6.38 per barrel from \$4.90 in 1999 (1998 – \$4.69 per barrel). The increase in oil production expenses related to the cost of natural gas needed for steam production processes at Primrose. Canadian Natural's expansion into higher production cost areas in the North Sea has also contributed to overall higher oil production costs. North Sea production expense averaged \$8.60 per boe in 2000, comprised of crude oil of \$8.66 per barrel and natural gas of \$0.79 per thousand cubic feet. Other international production expense averaged \$20.41 per barrel in 2000 due to fixed costs associated with the Floating Production Storage and Offtake vessel leased in Angola.

Natural gas production expenses increased 19 percent to \$0.44 per thousand cubic feet in 2000 from \$0.37 in 1999 (1998 – \$0.33 per thousand cubic feet). This increase was due to a larger proportion of natural gas production from higher operating cost areas in British Columbia.

## Administration Expense

(\$ millions, except per unit)	2000	1999	1998
Gross costs	\$ 67.8	\$ 37.6	\$ 37.3
Per boe	\$ 0.61	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.54
Administration	\$ 27.2	\$ 17.0	\$ 18.8
Per boe	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.27

Total administration expense before operator recoveries and capitalized overhead increased to \$0.61 per boe from \$0.50 in 1999 (1998 – \$0.54) mainly due to higher staffing levels associated with the growth in production and the acquisition of Ranger. It is expected that the gross administration costs for 2001 will remain similar to the approximately \$0.70 per boe seen in the fourth quarter of 2000. Net administration expense, after operator recoveries and capitalized overhead relating to exploration and development in the North Sea and other international areas, increased to \$0.25 per boe in 2000 from \$0.23 in 1999 (1998 – \$0.27 per boe).

## Interest Expense

(\$ millions, except per unit)	2000	1999	1998
Total interest expense	\$ 162.1	\$ 90.5	\$ 76.0
Per boe	\$ 1.45	\$ 1.20	\$ 1.11
Average interest rate	6.4%	5.4%	5.6%
EBITDA interest coverage	13.3	9.2	7.0

Interest expense increased to \$162.1 million (\$1.45 per boe) from \$90.5 million (\$1.20 per boe) in 1999 (1998 – \$76.0 million and \$1.11 per boe). The increase in interest expense was due to higher average outstanding debt levels, the assumption of Ranger debt, and the increase in the average interest rate charged to 6.4 percent from 5.4 percent in 1999 (1998 – 5.6 percent). During the year 2000, Canadian Natural increased the fixed-rate portion of its long-term debt outstanding to 23 percent at December 31, 2000 compared to six percent at the end of 1999 (1998 – zero percent).

## Depletion, Depreciation and Amortization

(\$ millions, except per unit)	2000	1999	1998
North America	\$ 591.4	\$ 384.3	\$ 327.4
North Sea	\$ 52.3	\$ –	\$ –
Other International	\$ 0.9	\$ –	\$ –
Total	\$ 644.6	\$ 384.3	\$ 327.4
Per boe	\$ 5.75	\$ 5.08	\$ 4.77

Depletion, depreciation and amortization increased 68 percent to \$644.6 million from \$384.3 million in 1999 (1998 – \$327.4 million). This increase was due to a 48 percent increase in production volumes over 1999, and a larger asset base as a result of the active capital program and the acquisition of Ranger. The rate on a per boe basis increased 13 percent to \$5.75 from \$5.08 in 1999 (1998 – \$4.77).

## Unrealized Foreign Exchange Loss

Canadian Natural's debt denominated in US dollars increased to US \$509.0 million due to the assumption of Ranger debt, and represented 31 percent of the total debt outstanding at December 2000. This compares with US \$196.0 million or 13 percent of total debt outstanding at the end of 1999 (1998 – US \$196.0 million or 21 percent). Due to the higher level of US dollar denominated debt and the weakening Canadian dollar during the year 2000, the balance of deferred unrealized foreign exchange loss increased to \$13.8 million, with \$2.6 million being recognized as an expense in 2000 compared with \$2.2 million in 1999 (1998 – \$1.8 million).

## Taxes

(\$ millions)	2000	1999	1998
Taxes other than income taxes			
Current	\$ 57.1	\$ 8.1	\$ 3.6
Deferred	\$ (7.6)	\$ –	\$ –
	\$ 49.5	\$ 8.1	\$ 3.6
Current income tax – North Sea	\$ 33.7	\$ –	\$ –
Current income tax – Large Corporation Tax	\$ 14.7	\$ 7.8	\$ 6.3
Future income tax	\$ 464.0	\$ 136.8	\$ 56.0

Canadian Natural adopted the liability method of accounting for income taxes on January 1, 2000 as recommended by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants ("CICA"). Under the liability method, Canadian Natural will record future income taxes for the effects of any difference between the accounting and income tax basis of an asset or liability. Canadian Natural has adopted the CICA recommendations retroactively without prior period restatement. Canadian Natural's future income tax provision for 2000 increased to \$464.0 million (\$4.14 per boe) from \$136.8 million (\$1.80 per boe); (1998 – \$56.0 million or \$0.82 per boe) due to the significant increase in net earnings before tax. Canadian Natural's effective tax rate declined to 39.5 percent in 2000 from 42.0 percent in 1999 and 51.4 percent in 1998 as a result of lower tax rates in its foreign operations, and the continuing benefit of the resource allowance on its Canadian operations.



Canadian Natural did not incur any cash Canadian federal income taxes and it is anticipated that, due to the availability of \$2.9 billion of tax pools in Canada at the end of 2000 and budgeted capital expenditures for 2001, no current cash income tax liability will arise in 2001. Canadian Natural is, however, liable for the payment of Federal Large Corporation Tax ("LCT"). LCT increased to \$14.7 million, \$0.14 per boe from \$7.8 million, \$0.15 per boe, (1998 – \$6.2 million, \$0.10 per boe) due to an increase in Canadian Natural's capital base upon which the LCT is calculated. Total current income tax expense in the North Sea is \$33.7 million or \$0.46 per boe. Earnings in the North Sea are currently subject to a tax rate of 30 percent.

Taxes other than income taxes consist of the current and deferred Petroleum Revenue Tax ("PRT"), other international taxes and provincial capital taxes. Taxes other than income taxes increased to \$49.5 million or \$0.44 per boe in 2000 from \$8.1 million or \$0.11 per boe in 1999 (1998 – \$3.6 million or \$0.05 per boe). The increase in other taxes was mainly due to North Sea PRT, which accounts for \$33.3 million or \$0.29 per boe. PRT is charged on applicable fields at the rate of 50 percent of net operating income after certain deductions. New fields, including Banff, Pierce, Harding and Kyle are not subject to PRT and as a result, PRT provisions as a percentage of net income are expected to decline in the future.

## Liquidity and Capital Resources

### Debt

(\$ millions, except ratios)	2000	1999	1998
Working capital deficit (surplus)	\$ 77.3	\$ (36.4)	\$ (57.9)
Long-term debt	2,454.5	2,156.8	1,425.5
Net debt	\$ 2,531.8	\$ 2,120.4	\$ 1,367.6
Net debt to cash flow	1.3	2.9	3.1
Net debt to equity	44%	53%	52%
Net debt to market capitalization	33%	35%	37%

Canadian Natural had unsecured bank credit facilities of approximately \$2,800.0 million at December 31, 2000 compared with \$2,250.0 million in 1999 (1998 – \$1,600.0 million). The facilities are reviewed annually and require no principal repayments provided certain covenants, including specific financial ratios, are maintained. Canadian Natural anticipates continuing to meet these requirements under its current operating forecast for 2001. In January 2001, Canadian Natural reduced its unsecured bank credit facility by \$450.0 million. In March 2000, Canadian Natural issued \$125.0 million of seven-year Medium Term Notes as a strategy to lengthen the average maturity of its debt portfolio. In addition, Canadian Natural assumed the US dollar senior unsecured notes of Ranger on acquisition, further lengthening the average maturity of the debt portfolio and increasing the component of fixed rate debt to 23 percent of total debt.

### Share Capital

Canadian Natural issued 7.6 million shares relating to the acquisition of Ranger. A further 3.2 million shares were issued throughout the year 2000 for proceeds of \$65.3 million from the exercise of employee stock options compared with 1.2 million shares for proceeds of \$21.6 million in 1999 (1998 – 1.0 million shares for proceeds of \$14.0 million). In 1999, 10.5 million common shares were issued for gross proceeds of \$399.0 million pursuant to a prospectus offering.

The \$118.3 million of preferred securities assumed on acquisition of Ranger represent equity under accounting principles generally accepted in Canada. Accordingly, the preferred security dividends of \$2.8 million net of tax (\$5.0 million before tax) were recorded directly to retained earnings.

## Capitalization

(\$ millions)	2000		1999		1998	
	\$	%	\$	%	\$	%
Working capital deficit (surplus)	77.3	0.9	(36.4)	(0.5)	(57.9)	(1.4)
Long-term debt	2,454.5	27.2	2,156.9	32.7	1,425.5	35.0
Deferred credits	1,414.9	15.7	541.4	8.2	408.3	10.0
Warrants at book value	2.7	—	2.9	—	0.7	—
Common shares at December 31 market value	5,074.6	56.2	3,928.8	59.6	2,295.6	56.4
	9,024.0	100.0	6,593.6	100.0	4,072.2	100.0

## Capital Expenditures

Excluding the corporate acquisition of Ranger, capital expenditures totalled \$1,136.0 million in the year 2000, down from \$1,900.6 million in 1999 (1998 – \$609.7 million). Net property acquisitions in 2000 decreased by \$1,272.1 million as 1999 included the acquisition of properties from BP Amoco and Blue Range. Property acquisitions in the year 2000 are net of proceeds on disposition of \$160.3 million, including \$128.0 million received on the sale of non-operated Canadian properties acquired in the Ranger acquisition. Capital expenditures on North American properties accounted for 92 percent of expenditures, with the remainder expended in Canadian Natural's core operating regions in the North Sea and Offshore West Africa. Expenditures on exploration and development increased 103 percent to \$979.9 million in the year 2000 from \$482.1 million in 1999 (1998 – \$517.1 million). Facilities expenditures increased to \$335.7 million from \$143.2 million in 1999 (1998 – \$205.7 million). Well drilling, completion and equipping increased 91 percent with the drilling of 813 net wells, 86 more than were drilled in 1999 (1998 – 358 net wells). Canadian Natural's 2000 capital program was funded through a combination of cash flow, available forms of debt financing, the issue of common share equity and the sale of non-strategic properties.

## Capital Expenditures

(\$ millions)	2000	1999	1998
Corporate acquisition	\$ 1,687.3	\$ —	\$ —
Property acquisitions	310.5	1,448.3	197.8
Seismic and geological evaluation	40.5	17.9	17.2
Land acquisition and retention	79.7	46.2	39.0
Well drilling, completion, equipping	524.0	274.8	255.2
Pipeline and production facilities	335.7	143.2	205.7
Projects under construction	—	(6.5)	25.4
Head office equipment	5.9	2.7	3.3
Total capital expenditures	2,983.6	1,926.6	743.6
Funded by:			
Cash flow	1,883.6	723.5	444.2
Long-term debt and working capital	397.0	769.9	151.5
Assumption of preferred securities	118.3	—	—
Issue of capital stock	424.4	407.2	14.0
Property dispositions	160.3	26.0	133.9
	\$ 2,983.6	\$ 1,926.6	\$ 743.6

## 2000 Segmented Capital Expenditures

(\$ millions)	North America	North Sea	Other International	Total
Property acquisitions	\$ 150.2	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 150.2
Seismic and geological evaluation	28.0	2.8	9.7	40.5
Land acquisition and retention	79.7	—	—	79.7
Well drilling, completion, equipping	480.0	34.1	9.9	524.0
Pipeline and production facilities	298.3	17.7	19.7	335.7
Projects under construction	—	—	—	—
Head office equipment	5.6	0.3	—	5.9
Total capital expenditures	\$ 1,041.8	\$ 54.9	\$ 39.3	\$ 1,136.0

## Finding and Onstream Costs

(\$ millions)	2000	1999	1998	Three year total
<b>Capital expenditures</b>				
Corporate acquisition	\$ 1,687.3	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,687.3
Net property acquisitions and dispositions	150.2	1,422.3	63.9	1,636.4
Seismic and geological evaluation	40.5	17.9	17.2	75.6
Land acquisition and retention	79.7	46.2	39.0	164.9
Well drilling, completion, equipping	524.0	274.8	255.2	1,054.0
Pipeline and production facilities	335.7	143.2	205.7	684.6
Total net reserve replacement expenditures	2,817.4	1,904.4	581.0	5,302.8
Projects under construction	—	(6.5)	25.4	18.9
Head office equipment	5.9	2.7	3.3	11.9
Total capital expenditures	\$ 2,823.3	\$ 1,900.6	\$ 609.7	\$ 5,333.6

## Cost of net reserves replacement (\$/boe)

After reserve revisions (6:1)	\$ 6.23	\$ 4.93	\$ 4.79	\$ 5.52
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## Risks and Uncertainties

Canadian Natural is exposed to several operational risks inherent in exploring, developing, producing and marketing of crude oil and natural gas. These inherent risks include: economic risk of finding and producing reserves at a reasonable cost; financial risk of marketing reserves at an acceptable price given market conditions; cost of capital risk associated with securing the needed capital to carry out the Company's operations; risk of carrying out operations with minimal environmental impact; risk of governmental policies, social instability or other political, economic or diplomatic developments in its international operations; and human resources risk of employing talented, motivated employees who share a vision in congruence with Canadian Natural's shareholders.

Operational control is enhanced by focusing efforts on large core areas with high-working interests and by assuming operatorship of all key facilities. Product mix is diversified, ranging from the production of natural gas to the production of crude oil of various grades. Marketing efforts are aimed at various markets to ensure that undue exposure to any one market does not exist. Financial instruments are utilized to help ensure targets are met and to manage exposure to fluctuating commodity markets. The Company also employs highly-qualified, motivated employees, who are shareholders, to ensure these strategies are implemented successfully.



The Company's current position with respect to its financial instruments is detailed in Note 9 of the Company's consolidated financial statements. The arrangements and policies concerning the Company's financial instruments are under constant review and may change depending upon the prevailing market conditions.

Canadian Natural's capital structure mix is also monitored on a continued basis to ensure that it optimizes flexibility, minimizes cost, and offers the greatest opportunity for growth. This includes the determination of a reasonable level of debt and any interest rate exposure risk which may exist.

Canadian Natural continues to employ an Environmental Management Plan to ensure the welfare of its employees, the communities in which it operates, and the environment as a whole. Environmental protection is of fundamental importance and is undertaken in accordance with guiding principles approved by the Company's Board of Directors. On an annual basis, the Board of Directors is presented with a detailed copy of the Company's Environmental Management Plan which is updated regularly at quarterly Directors' meetings.

## Outlook

Canadian Natural has established a strong balanced asset base. The estimated production mix in 2001 will be 21 percent light oil, nine percent medium oil, 31 percent heavy oil and 39 percent natural gas with estimated total production averaging 350,000 to 360,000 boe per day. The asset base is comprised of conventional exploration and production operations, midstream assets and oil sand leases. The asset base provides growth opportunities in the short, medium and long term.

Canadian Natural's 2001 capital expenditure program of \$1.5 billion will be allocated approximately 85 percent to Canadian operations and 15 percent to international opportunities in the North Sea and Offshore West Africa. Based on projected production volumes and the current pricing assumptions in the futures market, Canadian Natural's 2001 cash flow will be in excess of \$2.3 billion. It is Canadian Natural's current intention to use excess cash flow to further pay down debt and fund a dividend and share buy back program.

Canadian Natural announced a dividend policy for the payment of a regular quarterly dividend of \$0.10 per common share payable in January, April, July and October of each year with the initial payment to be made on April 1, 2001. Canadian Natural filed with the Toronto Stock Exchange a notice of intention to purchase up to five percent of the Company's common shares outstanding through a normal course issuer bid during the 12 month period ending January 21, 2002.

## 2001 Sensitivity Analysis

	Cash flow	Cash flow per share
	\$ millions	\$
Natural gas price (\$0.10/mcf)	23.7	0.19
Natural gas volume (10 mmcf/d)	19.4	0.16
Oil price (WTI – US\$1.00)	100.0	0.81
Oil volume (1,000 bbls/d)	6.4	0.05
Interest rates (1%)	23.0	0.19

## Per-Unit Results

	2000	1999	1998
Crude oil and liquids (\$/bbl)			
Revenue	29.99	21.04	12.93
Royalties	3.05	2.25	1.66
Production	6.38	4.90	4.69
Operating netback	20.56	13.89	6.58
Natural gas (\$/mcf)			
Revenue	4.53	2.36	2.12
Royalties	1.08	0.44	0.29
Production	0.44	0.37	0.33
Operating netback	3.01	1.55	1.50
Barrel of oil equivalent (\$/boe) (6:1)			
Revenue	28.77	17.03	12.80
Royalties	4.51	2.49	1.70
Production	4.76	3.34	3.09
Operating netback	19.50	11.20	8.01
Administration	0.25	0.23	0.27
Interest	1.45	1.20	1.11
Taxes other than income tax – current	0.51	0.11	0.05
Current income tax	0.43	0.10	0.10
Cash flow netback	16.86	9.56	6.48
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	5.75	5.08	4.77
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	0.03	0.03	0.03
Taxes other than income tax – deferred	(0.07)	–	–
Future income taxes	4.14	1.80	0.82
Net earnings	7.01	2.65	0.86
Dividend on preferred securities	0.03	–	–
Net earnings attributable to common shareholders	6.98	2.65	0.86

## Quarterly Financial Information (unaudited)

(\$ millions, except per share)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
<b>2000</b>					
Oil and natural gas revenue	550.4	637.4	1,003.8	1,030.9	3,222.5
Cash flow attributable to common shareholders	343.2	400.3	587.4	552.7	1,883.6
Per share	3.06	3.55	4.97	4.56	16.14
Net earnings attributable to common shareholders	142.3	175.5	241.2	223.2	782.2
Per share	1.27	1.55	2.04	1.84	6.70
(\$ millions, except per share)	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
<b>1999</b>					
Oil and natural gas revenue	202.4	231.8	399.2	453.4	1,286.8
Cash flow attributable to common shareholders	100.7	125.4	235.0	262.4	723.5
Per share	1.01	1.25	2.29	2.41	6.96
Net earnings attributable to common shareholders	10.3	23.5	70.5	95.9	200.2
Per share	0.10	0.24	0.69	0.90	1.93

## Trading and Share Statistics

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2000 Total	1999 Total
<b>TSE – CDN\$</b>						
Trading volume (thousands)	38,085	35,574	35,446	32,748	141,853	107,615
Share price (\$/share)						
High	39.50	49.45	56.20	52.25	56.20	38.60
Low	29.80	35.80	40.25	37.25	29.80	19.80
Close	38.40	43.00	50.40	41.50	41.50	35.25
Market capitalization, at December 31 (\$ millions)					5,075	3,929
Shares outstanding (thousands)					122,279	111,454
<b>NYSE — US\$</b>						
Trading volume (thousands)	–	–	330	463	793	–
Share price (\$/share)						
High	–	–	37.81	34.56	37.81	–
Low	–	–	27.44	24.75	24.75	–
Close	–	–	33.50	27.50	27.50	–
Market capitalization, at December 31 (\$ millions)					3,363	–
Shares outstanding (thousands)	–	–			122,279	–



The accompanying consolidated financial statements and all information in the annual report are the responsibility of management. The consolidated financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with the accounting policies in the notes to the consolidated financial statements. Where necessary, management has made informed judgements and estimates in accounting for transactions which were not complete at the balance sheet date. In the opinion of management, the financial statements have been prepared within acceptable limits of materiality and are in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles appropriate in the circumstances. The financial information elsewhere in the annual report has been reviewed to ensure consistency with that in the consolidated financial statements.

Management maintains appropriate systems of internal control. Policies and procedures are designed to give reasonable assurance that transactions are appropriately authorized, assets are safeguarded from loss or unauthorized use and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for preparation of financial statements.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent firm of Chartered Accountants, has been engaged, as approved by a vote of the shareholders at the Company's most recent Annual General Meeting, to examine the consolidated financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Canada and provide an independent professional opinion. Their report is presented with the consolidated financial statements.

The Board of Directors is responsible for ensuring that management fulfills its responsibilities for financial reporting and internal control. The Board exercises this responsibility through the Audit Committee of the Board. This committee, which is comprised of a majority of non-management directors, meets with management and the external auditors to satisfy itself that management responsibilities are properly discharged and to review the consolidated financial statements before they are presented to the Board of Directors for approval. The consolidated financial statements have been approved by the Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Audit Committee.



John G. Langille, CA  
President  
March 7, 2001



Randall S. Davis, CA  
Manager, Financial Accounting

## AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE SHAREHOLDERS

We have audited the consolidated balance sheets of Canadian Natural Resources Limited as at December 31, 2000 and 1999 and the consolidated statements of earnings, retained earnings and cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2000. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation.

In our opinion, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2000 and 1999 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the years in the three year period ended December 31, 2000 in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada.

Calgary, Alberta  
March 7, 2001

*Price Waterhouse Coopers LLP*  
Chartered Accountants

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As at December 31 (millions of Canadian dollars)

2000

1999

## ASSETS

### Current assets

Cash	\$ 28.0	\$ 0.1
Accounts receivable and prepaid expenses	550.1	250.1
Inventory	33.9	46.8

612.0 297.0

Property, plant and equipment (notes 3 and 6) 7,141.5 4,553.5

Deferred charges (note 4) 22.1 0.3

7,775.6 4,850.8

## LIABILITIES

### Current liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	672.8	260.6
Current portion of long-term debt (note 5)	16.5	—

689.3 260.6

Long-term debt (note 5) 2,454.5 2,156.8

Future site restoration 170.5 36.9

Future income tax (note 6) 1,244.4 504.5

4,558.7 2,958.8

## SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Preferred securities (note 7) 118.3 —

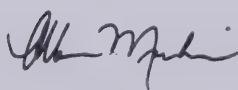
Share capital and contributed surplus (note 8) 1,692.6 1,268.2

Retained earnings 1,406.0 623.8

3,216.9 1,892.0

\$ 7,775.6 \$ 4,850.8

Signed on behalf of the Board



Allan P. Markin  
Director



N. Murray Edwards  
Director



## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

For the Years Ended December 31

(millions of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts)

	2000	1999	1998
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Oil and natural gas	\$ 3,222.5	\$ 1,286.8	\$ 877.6
Less: royalties	(506.2)	(187.9)	(116.8)
	<b>2,716.3</b>	<b>1,098.9</b>	<b>760.8</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Production	532.9	252.0	211.9
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	644.6	384.3	327.4
Administration	27.2	17.0	18.8
Interest	162.1	90.5	76.0
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	2.6	2.2	1.8
	<b>1,369.4</b>	<b>746.0</b>	<b>635.9</b>
<b>EARNINGS BEFORE TAXES</b>	<b>1,346.9</b>	<b>352.9</b>	<b>124.9</b>
Taxes other than income tax (note 6)	49.5	8.1	3.6
Current income tax (note 6)	48.4	7.8	6.3
Future income tax (note 6)	464.0	136.8	56.0
<b>NET EARNINGS</b>	<b>785.0</b>	<b>200.2</b>	<b>59.0</b>
Dividend on preferred securities (net of tax)	(2.8)	—	—
<b>NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS</b>	<b>\$ 782.2</b>	<b>\$ 200.2</b>	<b>\$ 59.0</b>
Weighted average number of common shares outstanding	<b>116,701,156</b>	<b>103,906,418</b>	<b>99,331,028</b>
Net earnings per common share attributable to common shareholders (basic and fully diluted)	<b>\$ 6.70</b>	<b>\$ 1.93</b>	<b>\$ 0.59</b>

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RETAINED EARNINGS

For the Years Ended December 31 (millions of Canadian dollars)

	2000	1999	1998
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS – BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 623.8</b>	<b>\$ 423.6</b>	<b>\$ 364.6</b>
<b>NET EARNINGS</b>	<b>785.0</b>	<b>200.2</b>	<b>59.0</b>
<b>DIVIDEND ON PREFERRED SECURITIES</b> (net of tax)	<b>(2.8)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>RETAINED EARNINGS – END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 1,406.0</b>	<b>\$ 623.8</b>	<b>\$ 423.6</b>

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Years Ended December 31

(millions of Canadian dollars, except per share amounts)

	2000	1999	1998
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net earnings	\$ 785.0	\$ 200.2	\$ 59.0
Non-cash items			
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	644.6	384.3	327.4
Deferred petroleum revenue tax (reduction)	(7.6)	—	—
Future income tax	464.0	136.8	56.0
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	2.6	2.2	1.8
Cash flows provided from operating activities	1,888.6	723.5	444.2
Net change in non-cash working capital			
balances related to operating activities	(55.4)	(54.7)	(8.2)
	1,833.2	668.8	436.0
<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Increase (decrease) in long-term debt	(78.5)	748.5	267.8
Issue of capital stock	66.4	404.3	14.0
Dividend on preferred securities	(5.0)	—	—
Decrease in deferred liabilities	—	—	(39.9)
Net change in non-cash working capital			
balances related to financing activities	5.8	0.1	—
	(11.3)	1,152.9	241.9
<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Corporate acquisition (note 2)	(722.8)	—	—
Expenditures on property, plant and equipment	(1,294.6)	(1,923.7)	(743.6)
Net proceeds on sale of property, plant and equipment	160.3	26.0	133.9
Net change in non-cash working capital balances			
related to investing activities	63.1	76.0	(68.3)
	(1,794.0)	(1,821.7)	(678.0)
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH</b>	27.9	—	(0.1)
<b>CASH – BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	0.1	0.1	0.2
<b>CASH – END OF YEAR</b>	\$ 28.0	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Cash flow per share from operations attributable to			
common shareholders (basic and fully diluted)	\$ 16.14	\$ 6.96	\$ 4.47

## SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION

For the Years Ended December 31 (millions of Canadian dollars)

	2000	1999	1998
Interest paid	\$ 169.3	\$ 90.0	\$ 71.0
Taxes paid	\$ 62.3	\$ 14.3	\$ 10.9
Changes in non-cash working capital			
Accounts receivable and prepaid expenses	\$ (110.9)	\$ (106.5)	\$ 25.1
Inventory	7.9	3.6	(34.3)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	116.5	124.3	(67.3)
	\$ 13.5	\$ 21.4	\$ (76.5)

(tabular amounts in millions of Canadian dollars, unless otherwise stated)

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The consolidated financial statements of Canadian Natural Resources Limited (the "Company") have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Canada. Management has made estimates and assumptions regarding certain types of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses in the preparation of the financial statements. Such estimates primarily relate to unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements. Accordingly, actual results may differ from estimated amounts but management does not believe such differences will materially affect the Company's financial position or results of operations. Significant accounting policies are summarized as follows:

### Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company, its subsidiaries and partnerships. A portion of the Company's activity is conducted jointly with others and the consolidated financial statements reflect only the Company's proportionate interest in such activities.

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash comprises cash on hand and demand deposits. Other investments (term deposits and certificates of deposit) purchased with a maturity date of three months or less are reported as cash equivalents.

### Inventory

Inventory is comprised of product inventory and oilfield equipment held for resale and is valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value.

### Petroleum and natural gas property, plant and equipment

The Company follows the full cost method of accounting for petroleum and natural gas properties and equipment as prescribed by the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants whereby all costs relating to the exploration for and development of oil and natural gas reserves are capitalized and accumulated in country-by-country cost centres. Proceeds on disposal of properties are ordinarily deducted from such costs without recognition of profit or loss except where such disposal constitutes a major portion of the Company's reserves.

The costs related to each cost centre from which there is production are depleted on the unit-of-production method based on the estimated proven reserves of each country. Volumes of net production and reserves before royalties are converted to equivalent units on the basis of estimated relative energy content. In determining its depletion base, the Company includes estimated future costs to be incurred in developing proven reserves and excludes the cost of unproven properties. The unproven properties are assessed periodically to ascertain whether impairment has occurred. When proved reserves are assigned or the value of the property is considered to be impaired, the cost of the property or the amount of the impairment is added to costs subject to depletion. The costs in cost centres from which there has been no commercial production are not subject to depletion until commercial production commences.

Processing and production facilities, net of salvage value, are depreciated based on the estimated useful life of twenty years.

The Company carries its petroleum and natural gas properties at the lower of the capitalized cost and net recoverable value. Net capitalized cost of each cost centre is calculated as the net book value of the related assets less the accumulated provisions for future income taxes and future site restoration. Net recoverable value is limited to the sum of future net revenues from proven properties, and the cost of unproven properties net of provisions for impairment less estimated future financing and administrative expenses and income taxes. Future net revenues are based on prices and costs prevailing at year-end.

#### **Future site restoration**

Estimated future dismantlement, site restoration and abandonment costs of petroleum and natural gas properties are provided for using the unit-of-production method, while those of facilities are provided for using the straight-line method over the estimated service life of the assets of twenty years. Expenditures incurred to dismantle facilities and restore well sites are charged against the related restoration liability.

#### **Depreciation and amortization of other capital assets**

Other capital assets are amortized over their estimated useful life of five years.

#### **Foreign currency translation**

Operations outside Canada are considered to be integrated and are translated using the temporal method. For foreign currency balances and integrated subsidiaries, monetary assets and liabilities are translated to Canadian dollars at the exchange rate in effect at the balance sheet date and non-monetary assets and liabilities are translated at rates of exchange in effect when the assets are acquired or obligations incurred. Revenues and expenses are translated to Canadian dollars at the monthly average exchange rate. Provisions for depletion, depreciation and future site restoration are translated at the same rates as the related items. Gains or losses on translation are included in the determination of net earnings for the period except for unrealized gains or losses on long-term debt which are deferred and amortized over the remaining term of the debt.

#### **Petroleum revenue tax**

The Company accounts for future United Kingdom Petroleum Revenue Tax ("PRT") by the life-of-the-field method. The total future liability or recovery of PRT is estimated using current prices and costs. The estimated future PRT is apportioned to accounting periods on the basis of estimated future revenues. Changes in the estimated total future PRT are accounted for prospectively.

#### **Income tax**

The Company follows the liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under this method, income tax assets and liabilities are recognized based on the estimated tax effects of temporary differences in the carrying value of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and their respective tax bases, using income tax rates enacted on the balance sheet date. The effect of a change in income tax rates on the future income tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the period of the change.

#### **Stock based compensation plans**

Consideration paid by employees or directors on the exercise of stock options under the employee stock option plan is recorded as share capital. No compensation expense is recorded either on granting or the exercise of options under the plan. The Company matches employee contributions to the stock savings plan and these cash payments are recorded as compensation expense.

#### **Financial instruments**

The Company uses various financial instruments to reduce its exposure to commodity price and foreign exchange rate fluctuations. The Company does not use these instruments for trading purposes. Gains or losses on these contracts are included in oil and natural gas revenue at the time of sale of the related product.



## 2. CORPORATE ACQUISITION

In July 2000, the Company issued 7,602,068 common shares at \$47.10 per share and paid cash of \$722.8 million to acquire all the issued and outstanding common shares of Ranger Oil Limited ("Ranger"), a company engaged in the exploration for and development of petroleum and natural gas in the North Sea, North America and other international areas. The acquisition was accounted for by the purchase method. The Company's Consolidated Statements of Earnings, Retained Earnings and Cash Flows include operating results of Ranger since the date of acquisition. The purchase price was allocated to net assets acquired based on their estimated fair values.

Property, plant and equipment	\$ 1,966.4
Future site restoration	(129.3)
Future income tax	(149.8)
Net assets acquired	\$ 1,687.3
Equity consideration	\$ 358.0
Cash consideration	722.8
Assumption of net debt	376.6
Assumption of preferred securities	118.3
Assumption of non-cash working capital	111.6
Purchase price	\$ 1,687.3

## 3. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Cost	Accumulated depletion and depreciation	Net
<b>2000</b>			
Oil and Gas			
North America	\$ 8,010.6	1,918.8	\$ 6,091.8
North Sea	868.3	52.3	816.0
Other International	221.3	0.9	220.4
Other	24.6	11.3	13.3
	\$ 9,124.8	1,983.3	\$ 7,141.5
<b>1999</b>			
Oil and Gas			
North America	\$ 5,893.7	1,349.4	\$ 4,544.3
Other	17.9	8.7	9.2
	\$ 5,911.6	1,358.1	\$ 4,553.5

North American oil and gas assets include a \$76.6 million future tax recovery on the sale of non-tax based assets in 2000.

During the year ended December 31, 2000, the Company capitalized administrative overhead of \$3.7 million (1999 – \$0; and 1998 – \$0) relating to exploration and development in the North Sea and other international areas. Costs of \$714.1 million (1999 – \$418.1 million, 1998 – \$296.0 million) relating to undeveloped land and non-commercial operations have been excluded from the Company's depletion base.

## 4. DEFERRED CHARGES

	2000	1999
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	\$ 13.8	\$ 0.3
Deferred petroleum revenue tax	8.3	–
	\$ 22.1	\$ 0.3

## 5. LONG-TERM DEBT

	2000	1999
Bank credit facilities		
Bankers' acceptances	\$ 1,437.4	\$ 1,748.9
US \$ Bankers' acceptances		
(US \$196 million, 1999 – US \$196 million)	294.0	282.9
US \$ LIBOR advances (US \$100 million)	150.0	–
Other	8.3	–
Limited recourse loan	11.8	–
Medium term notes		
6.85% unsecured debentures due May 28, 2004	125.0	125.0
7.40% unsecured debentures due March 1, 2007	125.0	–
Senior unsecured notes		
6.95% due September 30, 2003 (US \$30 million)	45.0	–
6.42% due May 27, 2004 (US \$40 million)	60.0	–
6.50% due May 1, 2008 (US \$50 million)	75.0	–
Adjustable rate due May 27, 2009 (US \$93 million)	139.5	–
	\$ 2,471.0	\$ 2,156.8
Amount due within one year	16.5	–
	\$ 2,454.5	\$ 2,156.8

### Bank credit facilities

The Company has unsecured bank credit facilities of approximately \$2,800 million comprised of a \$100 million operating demand facility, three revolving credit and term loan facilities totaling \$2,475 million and a revolving credit facility of US \$150 million. With the exception of a \$450 million facility maturing January 15, 2002, the Canadian revolving credit and term loan facilities are fully revolving for 364-day periods with provision for extensions at the mutual agreement of the Company and the lenders. If not extended, the facilities convert to a non-revolving reducing loan with a term of between three and five years. The bank facilities provide that the borrowings may be made by way of operating advance, prime loans, bankers' acceptances, US base rate loans or US dollar LIBOR advances which bear interest at the bank's prime rates or at money market rates plus applicable margins. The US \$150 million credit facility provides for LIBOR advances bearing interest at market rates plus applicable margins and is fully revolving for a 364-day period with a provision for one extension by mutual agreement of the lenders and the Company. At the end of the revolving period, the facility converts to a non-revolving reducing loan with a two year term. Principal repayments on facilities are not required provided certain covenants with respect to the Company's financial ratios are maintained. Based upon the remaining credit facilities, the indebtedness outstanding at December 31, 2000 and the Company's cash flow, no current portions of these bank credit facilities are required to be paid and therefore no current portions have been recognized. Subsequent to year-end, the Company cancelled a \$450 million credit facility.

In addition to the outstanding debt, letters of credit aggregating \$37.6 million have been issued against the bank credit facility.

### Limited recourse loan

The limited recourse loan bears interest based on a floating bankers' acceptance rate plus an applicable margin and is repayable in semi-annual installments expiring March 2007. The loan is secured by certain pipeline assets.

### Medium term notes

The Company's medium term note program has an authorized principal amount of \$500 million. The notes may be denominated in Canadian dollars, or in foreign currencies, and bear interest at either fixed or floating rates, determined by reference to market rates at the date of issue of the notes.

### Senior unsecured notes

The 6.95 percent notes due September 30, 2003 have principal repayments of US \$10.0 million on September 30, 2001 and US \$10.0 million annually thereafter to maturity. The 6.42 percent notes are due in full May 27, 2004. Annual principal repayments of US \$10.0 million commence May 1, 2004 on the 6.50 percent notes due May 1, 2008. The adjustable rate notes bear interest at 6.64 percent declining to 6.54 percent under certain circumstances, have annual principal repayments of US \$31.0 million commencing May 27, 2007 and are due May 27, 2009. The debt instruments contain covenants pertaining to the Company's net worth, certain ratios and the ability to grant security. At December 31, 2000 all covenants have been met.

### Required debt repayments

Debt repayments are as follows:

Year	Repayment
2001	\$ 16.5
2002	\$ 16.5
2003	\$ 91.7
2004	\$ 276.8
2005	\$ 16.8
Thereafter	\$ 313.0

## 6. TAXES

### Income tax

Effective January 1, 2000, the Company adopted the Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants' new accounting standard with respect to accounting for income taxes. The new standard recommends the liability method of determining income taxes where future income taxes are determined based on temporary differences between the tax bases of assets or liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. Previously, the Company used the deferral method of determining income taxes where deferred income taxes were recognized based on the differences in timing of recognition of revenue and expenses for financial accounting and income tax purposes. The new standard has been applied retroactively without restatement.

The effects of the new standard on the opening balances of the 2000 financial statements are:

Increase property, plant and equipment	\$ 204.1
Increase future income tax liability	\$ 204.1

The adjustments result primarily from the recognition of future income tax liabilities on past acquisitions where the tax basis of assets acquired was less than the purchase price.

There is no impact on net earnings for the year as a result of the adoption of the new policy.

The following table summarizes the temporary differences which give rise to the future income tax liability at December 31, 2000.

	2000
Future income tax liabilities	
Property, plant and equipment	\$1,052.4
Partnership deferral	479.5
Other	5.0
Future income tax assets	
Future site restoration	(49.0)
Share issue costs	(5.4)
Income tax losses	(180.5)
Other	(57.6)
	<b>\$1,244.4</b>

The provision for current income tax is as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Current tax	\$ 33.7	\$ —	\$ —
Large corporations tax	14.7	7.8	6.3
	<b>\$ 48.4</b>	<b>\$ 7.8</b>	<b>\$ 6.3</b>

The provision for income taxes is different from the amount computed by applying the combined statutory Canadian federal and provincial income tax rates to earnings before taxes. The reasons for the difference are as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
	44%	44%	44%
Tax provision at statutory rate	\$ 592.6	\$ 155.3	\$ 55.0
Effect on taxes of			
Non-deductibility of crown royalties, lease rentals and mineral taxes	193.2	64.8	36.4
Non-tax base depletion	—	13.0	22.6
Resource allowance	(238.1)	(95.7)	(57.4)
Large corporations tax	14.7	7.8	6.3
Deductible petroleum revenue tax	(14.6)	—	—
Foreign tax rate differentials	(40.9)	—	—
Other	5.5	(0.6)	(0.6)
	<b>\$ 512.4</b>	<b>\$ 144.6</b>	<b>\$ 62.3</b>

The Company's non-capital loss carryforwards will expire in the following years

2001	\$ 7.5
2002	0.3
2003	2.3
2004	—
2005	32.3
2006	242.8
2007	29.6
Thereafter	51.7
	<b>\$ 366.5</b>



## Taxes other than income tax

	2000	1999	1998
Current petroleum revenue tax	\$ 40.9	\$ —	\$ —
Deferred petroleum revenue tax (reduction)	(7.6)	—	—
Provincial capital taxes and surcharges	12.3	8.1	3.6
Other	3.9	—	—
	<b>\$ 49.5</b>	<b>\$ 8.1</b>	<b>\$ 3.6</b>

The measurement of PRT expense and the related provision in the consolidated financial statements is subject to uncertainty associated with future recoverability of oil and natural gas reserves, commodity prices and the timing of future events, which could result in material changes to deferred amounts.

## 7. PREFERRED SECURITIES

The US \$80 million preferred securities are in the form of 8.30 percent subordinated notes. Principal repayments of US \$26.7 million are required annually commencing June 25, 2009. The securities may be prepaid at the option of the Company at any time. The prepaid amount is subject to certain adjustments to compensate holders for any potential loss of return over the original life of the securities, based on market conditions at that time. The notes are subordinated to the long-term debt of the Company and contain, among other things, certain financial covenants restricting the granting of security for new borrowings and the maintenance of specified financial ratios. As at December 31, 2000 all covenants have been met.

The Company has the unrestricted right to pay dividends, principal and principal prepayment amounts with proceeds from the issuance of common shares. The semi-annual dividend payments may be deferred at the option of the Company for up to two consecutive periods, with a maximum of eight deferral periods over the life of the securities.

## 8. SHARE CAPITAL AND CONTRIBUTED SURPLUS

### Authorized

200,000 Class 1 preferred shares with a stated value of \$10 each

Unlimited number of common shares without par value

### Share capital and contributed surplus

	2000	1999
Common shares	\$ 1,688.0	\$ 1,263.4
Warrants	2.7	2.9
Contributed surplus	1.9	1.9
	<b>\$ 1,692.6</b>	<b>\$ 1,268.2</b>

## Issued

	2000		1999	
	Number of shares	Amount	Number of shares	Amount
<b>Common shares</b>				
Balance – beginning of year	111,454,066	\$ 1,263.4	99,809,248	\$ 852.0
Issued for acquisition of Ranger	7,602,068	358.0	–	–
Exercise of stock options	3,187,376	65.3	1,228,153	21.6
Exercise of warrants	35,490	1.3	–	–
Issued for cash pursuant to prospectus offering	–	–	10,500,000	399.0
Cancellation of shares	–	–	(83,335)	(0.2)
Issue costs (net of tax)	–	–	–	(9.0)
Balance – end of year	122,279,000	\$ 1,688.0	111,454,066	\$ 1,263.4
<b>Warrants</b>				
Balance – beginning of year	500,000	\$ 2.9	750,000	\$ 0.7
Exercised during the year	(35,490)	(0.2)	–	–
Issued during the year	–	–	500,000	2.9
Expired during the year	–	–	(750,000)	(0.7)
Balance – end of year	464,510	\$ 2.7	500,000	\$ 2.9

## Contributed surplus

	2000	1999
Balance – beginning of year	\$ 1.9	\$ 1.0
Expiry of warrants	–	0.7
Cancellation of common shares	–	0.2
Balance – end of year	\$ 1.9	\$ 1.9

## Cancellation of common shares

During 1999, 83,335 common shares were returned to treasury and cancelled on the expiry of the conversion period for exchanging previously issued equity and debt instruments into common shares of the Company.

## Warrants

During 1999, the Company issued 500,000 warrants at an ascribed value of \$2.9 million to acquire property, plant and equipment. Each warrant entitles the holder to acquire one common share of the Company at a price of \$30.00 per common share until August 16, 2001.

## Stock options

The Company's stock option plan provides for granting of options to directors, officers and employees in a total amount up to a maximum of ten percent of the total issued and outstanding common shares of the Company. Options granted under the plan have a maximum term of six years to expiry and vest equally over a five year period starting on the first anniversary date of the grant. The exercise price of each option granted equals the market price of the Company's common shares on the date of grant.

The following tables summarize the information relating to stock options outstanding at December 31, 2000 and 1999.

	2000		1999	
	Share options	Weighted average exercise price	Share options	Weighted average exercise price
Outstanding – beginning of year	9,664,451	\$ 25.99	9,724,464	\$ 23.98
Granted	5,201,640	39.18	1,888,610	31.72
Exercised	(3,187,376)	20.48	(1,228,153)	17.55
Forfeited	(1,014,472)	39.61	(720,470)	28.16
Outstanding – end of year	10,664,243	\$ 32.78	9,664,451	\$ 25.99
Exercisable – end of year	2,235,424	\$ 29.80	3,331,204	\$ 24.10

	Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable	
	Options outstanding	Weighted average remaining term (years)	Weighted average exercise price	Options exercisable	Weighted average exercise price
Range of exercise prices					
Under \$25.00	1,834,044	3.4	\$ 22.32	576,581	\$ 22.54
\$25.00 to \$29.99	1,699,860	3.1	27.10	498,174	27.24
\$30.00 to \$34.99	4,789,749	4.1	33.81	1,092,619	34.27
Over \$35.00	2,340,590	5.4	42.98	68,050	38.28
	10,664,243	4.1	\$ 32.78	2,235,424	\$ 29.80

## 9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### Financial contracts

The Company's financial instruments recognized in the consolidated balance sheet consist of cash, accounts receivable, current liabilities and long-term debt.

The estimated fair values of financial instruments have been determined based on the Company's assessment of available market information and appropriate valuation methodologies; however, these estimates may not necessarily be indicative of the amounts that could be realized or settled in a current market transaction.

The carrying value of cash, accounts receivable, accounts payable, accrued liabilities and long-term debt with variable interest rates approximate their fair value.

The estimated fair values of other financial instruments are as follows:

	2000		1999	
Asset (Liability)	Carrying value	Fair value	Carrying value	Fair value
Notes	\$ (687.8)	\$ (693.6)	\$ (125.0)	\$ (122.1)
Derivative financial instruments	\$ –	\$ (238.9)	\$ –	\$ (69.7)

The Company uses certain derivative financial instruments to manage its foreign currency and commodity price exposures. These financial instruments are entered into solely for hedging purposes and are not used for trading or other speculative purposes. The following summarizes transactions outstanding at December 31, 2000.

### Crude oil

At December 31, 2000 the Company had hedged 20,000 barrels per day for the year 2001 at an average floor price of US \$26.61 per barrel and an average ceiling price of US \$30.00 per barrel. In addition, the Company hedged 10,000 barrels per day for the first quarter of 2001 at an average floor price of US \$29.00 per barrel and an average ceiling price of US \$35.36 per barrel.

At December 31, 2000 the Company had hedged the basis between West Texas Intermediate and Brent oil at US \$1.16 per barrel on 17,000 barrels per day for the year 2001.

### Natural gas

At December 31, 2000 the Company had hedged 33,200 mmbtu per day at AECO for the first quarter of 2001 at an average floor price of Cdn \$5.54 per mmbtu. In addition, the Company hedged 38,000 mmbtu per day for the first quarter of 2001 at an average floor price of Cdn \$5.54 per mmbtu and an average ceiling price of Cdn \$7.44 per mmbtu.

At December 31, 2000 the Company had hedged the basis between Empress and NYMEX Henry Hub at US \$0.73 per mmbtu for 5,500 mmbtu per day for 2001 through 2005 and for 4,600 mmbtu per day for 2006.

At December 31, 2000 the Company had hedged 20,000 mmbtu per day at Sumas for 2001 and 2002 and 16,700 mmbtu per day for 2003 at an average price of Cdn \$2.85 per mmbtu.

At December 31, 2000 the Company had hedged 25,000 mmbtu per day at an average NYMEX Henry Hub price of US \$1.75 per mmbtu for 2001. In addition, the Company hedged 10,000 mmbtu per day at an average NYMEX price of Cdn \$2.52 per mmbtu for 2001 through to October 2006.

### Foreign currency

At December 31, 2000 the Company had fixed the exchange rate on US dollars through currency swaps as follows: 2001 – US \$11.6 million per month at an average exchange rate of 1.34 and 2002 – US \$0.3 million per month at an average exchange rate of 1.37. In addition, the Company fixed the exchange rate on US dollars through currency collars as follows: 2001 to 2002 – US \$4.2 million per month and 2003 – US \$1.7 million per month at an average floor exchange rate of 1.43 and an average ceiling rate of 1.53. The amounts fixed approximate 9 percent of the amounts of US cash received each month from the sale of crude oil and natural gas.

### Credit risk

Accounts receivable are mainly with customers in the oil and natural gas industry and are subject to normal industry credit risks. The Company minimizes this risk by entering into sales contracts with only highly rated entities. The Company is also exposed to certain losses in the event of non-performance by counterparties to derivative instruments; however, the Company minimizes this credit risk by entering into agreements with only highly rated financial institutions.

## 10. COMMITMENTS

The Company has committed to certain payments over the next five years as follows:

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Natural gas transportation charges	\$ 165.2	\$ 143.5	\$ 122.3	\$ 112.4	\$ 99.2
Offshore equipment operating lease charges	\$ 43.8	\$ 56.4	\$ 42.0	\$ 33.1	\$ 31.0
Electricity charges	\$ –	\$ 28.3	\$ 26.2	\$ –	\$ –
Office lease charges	\$ 14.1	\$ 13.9	\$ 12.6	\$ 8.8	\$ 8.8



## 11. SEGMENTED INFORMATION

The Company's activities are conducted in three geographic segments: North America, the North Sea and Other International. All activities relate to the exploration, development, production and marketing of crude oil, natural gas liquids and natural gas.

	North America	North Sea	Other International	2000 Total <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>REVENUE</b>				
Oil and natural gas	\$ 2,905.1	\$ 282.8	\$ 34.6	\$ 3,222.5
Less: royalties	(491.1)	(15.1)	—	(506.2)
	2,414.0	267.7	34.6	2,716.3
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
Production	462.6	54.9	15.4	532.9
Depletion, depreciation and amortization	587.7	54.4	2.5	644.6
Administration	26.4	0.8	—	27.2
Interest	155.3	6.8	—	162.1
Unrealized foreign exchange loss	1.0	3.2	(1.6)	2.6
	1,233.0	120.1	16.3	1,369.4
<b>EARNINGS BEFORE TAXES</b>	1,181.0	147.6	18.3	1,346.9
Taxes other than income tax	12.3	33.3	3.9	49.5
Current income tax	14.7	33.7	—	48.4
Future income tax	478.6	(15.0)	0.4	464.0
<b>NET EARNINGS</b>	675.4	95.6	14.0	785.0
Dividend on preferred securities (net of tax)	(2.8)	—	—	(2.8)
<b>NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMON SHAREHOLDERS</b>	\$ 672.6	\$ 95.6	\$ 14.0	\$ 782.2
<b>EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURES <sup>(2)</sup></b>				
	\$ 959.6	\$ 54.6	\$ 39.3	\$ 1,053.5
<b>SEGMENTED ASSETS</b>	\$ 6,662.8	\$ 878.3	\$ 234.5	\$ 7,775.6

<sup>(1)</sup> 1999 and 1998 segmented information consists of North America only and would be consistent with the 1999 and 1998 Consolidated Statement of Earnings and Consolidated Balance Sheet.

<sup>(2)</sup> Expenditures include a \$76.6 million future tax recovery on the sale of non-tax based assets in North America.

## 12. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

Subsequent to year-end, the Company announced its intention to make a Normal Course Issuer Bid through the facilities of the Toronto Stock Exchange to purchase up to 6,114,726 or five percent of the 122,294,533 outstanding common shares of the Company. The Company also announced a dividend policy for the payment of a regular quarterly dividend of \$0.10 per common share payable in January, April, July and October of each year with initial payment to be made on April 1, 2001.

## 13. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN CANADIAN AND UNITED STATES GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP"), which differ in some respects from GAAP in the United States. The significant differences in GAAP, as applicable to these consolidated financial statements and notes, are described in the Company's Form 40-F report, which is filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

# TEN-YEAR REVIEW

Years Ended December 31	2000	1999	1998
<b>FINANCIAL</b> (millions of Canadian dollars, except per share data)			
Revenue	2,716.3	1,098.9	760.8
Expenses	1,369.4	746.0	635.9
Taxes	561.9	152.7	65.9
Cash flow attributable to common shareholders	1,883.6	723.5	444.2
Per share*	16.14	6.96	4.47
Net earnings attributable to common shareholders	782.2	200.2	59.0
Per share*	6.70	1.93	0.59
Balance sheet information			
Capital expenditures (net)	2,823.3	1,900.6	609.7
Working capital surplus (deficiency)	(77.3)	36.4	57.9
Total assets	7,775.6	4,850.8	3,247.4
Long-term debt	2,454.5	2,156.8	1,425.5
Shareholders' equity	3,216.9	1,892.0	1,277.4
Common shares outstanding (millions)*	122.3	111.5	99.8
Weighted average shares outstanding (millions)*	116.7	103.9	99.3
Number of employees (December 31)	943	675	547
<b>OPERATING</b>			
Reserves (proven and probable)			
Crude oil and NGLs (million barrels)			
Proven			
North America	642	554	287
North Sea	102	—	—
Other International	37	—	—
Probable			
North America	88	86	97
North Sea	32	—	—
Other International	10	—	—
Total	911	640	384
Natural gas (billion cubic feet)			
Proven			
North America	2,360	2,183	1,905
North Sea	91	—	—
Other International	66	—	—
Probable			
North America	402	364	311
North Sea	23	—	—
Other International	19	—	—
Total	2,961	2,547	2,216
Daily Production			
Crude oil and NGLs (thousand barrels)			
North America	154.3	86.8	75.7
North Sea	17.2	—	—
Other International	2.1	—	—
Total	173.6	86.8	75.7
Natural gas (million cubic feet)			
North America	792.9	721.0	672.6
North Sea	1.5	—	—
Total	794.4	721.0	672.6
Average crude oil and NGLs price (\$/bbl)	29.99	21.04	12.93
Average natural gas price (\$/mcf)	4.53	2.36	2.12
Land holdings (millions)			
Gross acres	21.2	10.2	8.6
Net acres	14.9	8.6	7.2
Drilling activity (net wells)			
Crude oil wells	333.1	211.5	106.5
Natural gas wells	408.1	457.6	193.2
Injection wells	37.7	8.9	15.5
Dry and abandoned	34.4	49.3	42.7
Total	813.3	727.3	357.9
Success rate (%)	96	93	88

\* Restated to reflect two for one stock split in June 1993.

# TEN-YEAR REVIEW

1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991
768.8	532.3	245.4	221.2	135.5	66.2	35.1
552.5	346.7	171.5	123.6	75.4	42.5	23.8
105.0	90.6	31.5	43.4	25.8	9.8	3.3
503.0	359.7	153.6	152.8	94.2	41.8	21.3
5.13	4.32	2.22	2.39	1.64	0.81	0.50
111.3	95.0	42.4	54.2	34.3	13.9	8.0
1.14	1.14	0.61	0.85	0.60	0.27	0.19
1,119.2	1,203.6	238.8	331.2	271.2	90.0	59.2
(18.6)	(0.8)	9.7	4.0	2.2	(2.0)	(0.4)
2,931.1	2,062.6	900.4	737.8	436.9	173.2	99.8
1,136.3	588.0	237.7	242.9	189.2	60.5	35.6
1,204.3	1,074.2	496.3	356.2	171.2	81.5	45.2
98.8	97.4	74.0	66.7	59.9	54.4	49.0
98.0	83.2	69.3	63.9	57.6	51.5	42.8
542	428	205	162	123	61	31
270	141	53	43	29	14	7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
81	50	24	14	14	5	2
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
351	191	77	57	43	19	9
1,733	1,605	924	894	666	333	188
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
363	362	208	175	101	25	22
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2,096	1,967	1,132	1,069	767	358	210
70.6	37.4	16.8	12.8	8.0	4.2	1.7
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
70.6	37.4	16.8	12.8	8.0	4.2	1.7
625.5	499.3	304.8	237.5	164.8	93.5	57.3
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
625.5	499.3	304.8	237.5	164.8	93.5	57.3
18.82	23.52	19.82	18.18	18.17	20.84	21.39
1.91	1.71	1.43	1.99	1.72	1.31	1.28
8.5	7.5	4.4	3.8	3.0	1.1	0.7
6.9	5.8	3.3	2.7	1.9	0.7	0.5
442.9	208.9	112.5	43.7	32.8	9.8	11.0
199.6	128.1	73.9	138.1	68.2	19.8	12.7
1.5	1.0	-	-	-	-	-
67.0	62.9	22.3	44.5	27.6	21.5	9.0
711.0	400.9	208.7	226.3	128.6	51.1	32.7
91	84	89	80	79	58	72

**Board of Directors**

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*Edco Financial Holdings Ltd.*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

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*Managing Director,*  
*TOM Capital Associates Inc.*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

John G. Langille  
*President,*  
*Canadian Natural Resources Limited*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

Keith A.J. MacPhail  
*President & C.E.O.,*  
*Bonavista Petroleum Ltd.*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

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*Chairman of the Board,*  
*Canadian Natural Resources Limited*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

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*Chairman,*  
*Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

Eldon R. Smith, M.D.  
*Professor and Former Dean,*  
*Faculty of Medicine*  
*The University of Calgary*  
*Calgary, Alberta*

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*Ranger Oil (UK) Limited*

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*Vice-President, Exploitation*

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**Auditors**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP  
Calgary, Alberta

**Evaluation Engineers**

Sproule Associates Limited  
Calgary, Alberta

AEA Technology  
United Kingdom

Ryder Scott Company  
United States

**Stock Listing**

The Toronto Stock Exchange  
Symbol: CNQ

New York Stock Exchange  
Symbol: CED







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